Committee to move ahead with contempt charges against Meadows. **NEWS, PAGE 4**

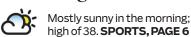
Surge in openings

United States employers posted 11 million open jobs in October. NEWS, PAGE 10

Huskies fall short

No. 15 UConn men beaten by unranked West Virginia, 56-53. SPORTS, PAGE 1

Increasing cloudiness





THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2021 **VOLUME CLXXXV COURANT.COM**

CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

Pfizer: Booster fights variant

Small, preliminary study suggests two doses alone might not protect against fast-spreading omicron

By Sharon Lafraniere The New York Times

Pfizer and BioNTech said Wednesday that laboratory tests suggest that three doses of their coronavirus vaccine offer significant protection against the fast-spreading omicron variant of the virus.

The companies said that tests of blood from people who received only two doses found much lower antibody levels against omicron compared with an earlier version of the virus. That finding indicates that two doses alone "may not be sufficient to protect against infection" by the new variant, the companies said.

But the blood samples obtained from people one month after they had received a booster shot showed neutralizing antibodies against omicron comparable to those against previous variants after two doses, the companies said in a statement.

These experiments, done with blood samples in the lab, cannot say for sure how the vaccines will perform in the real world. Vaccines stimulate a wide-ranging immune response that involves more than just antibodies, but levels of antibodies are the fastest and easiest response to test.

So the experiments offer an incomplete picture of how well the vaccine will protect against severe

Turn to Booster, Page 3

With COVID-19 hospitalizations rising rapidly, state health commissioner describes the intersection of factors responsible for increased infections



Jessmarie Lopez holds her daughter's hand as she receives a booster at Hartford Hospital on Tuesday. State hospitalizations are at their highest since April and health leaders have pushed for more vaccinations and booster shots. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT PHOTOS

'PERFECT STORM

By Alex Putterman | Hartford Courant

n the view of Public Health Commissioner Dr. Manisha Juthani, Connecticut's recent COVID-19 surge has been driven by "a perfect storm" of factors. There's a seasonal affect, with viral respiratory infections typically increasing in winter. There's waning vaccine immunity that leaves fully vaccinated people more vulnerable than they were earlier this year. And there's the inevitable increase in indoor socializing that comes with the holiday season.

The result is what Connecticut is currently experiencing: a level of COVID-19 cases the state hadn't seen in nearly a year and a rapid increase in the number of patients hospitalized with the disease.

This week, Juthani urged Connecticut residents to wear masks indoors, even as the state declines to require them.

"If you are indoors in public spaces, please wear a mask. We know that masks help prevent the spread of COVID-19," said Juthani, an infectious disease specialist. "We have so many tools in front of us that we did not have

Turn to Virus, Page 3



Nurse Ryan Gannon covers a booster shot at Hartford Hospital.

76.9%

According to the state, 76.9% of people hospitalized with COVID-19 are unvaccinated. Hospital officials say the rate is even higher when looking specifically at people with severe symptoms. As of Wednesday, Connecticut has 575 patients hospitalized with COVID-19, up 50 from Tuesday.

Senator wary of Instagram changes

Blumenthal claims safeguards to protect teens 'fall way short'

By Daniela Altimari Hartford Courant

Instagram on Wednesday outlined a series of new safeguards to protect young users of its social media platform but members of Congress from

expressed skepticism.
"We're here to do more than shake fists. We are seeking solutions," said Sen. Richard Blumenthal, a Democrat from Connecticut who chairs the Senate consumer protection subcommittee. "These changes fall way short."

Adam Mosseri, the head of Instagram, told the committee that the tech company is rolling out changes designed to protect young users privacy, give parents new tools to limit their children's time on the site and suggest breaks for those when users log on for extended periods.

The company is also proposing an industry panel to enforce safety standards, an idea was roundly rejected by Sen. Marsha Blackburn of Tennessee, the top Republican on the subcommittee.

"It's not an industry body that is going to set these standards," Blackburn said during a post-hearing press conference. "It is going to be the U.S. Congress that is going to set the rules and the regulations."

Added Blumenthal: "The time for self-policing — and

self-regulation — is over." Mossari is the latest tech executive to be grilled by the committee about what critics call the corrosive effects of social media on children. In October, the panel heard from a whistleblower who provided lawmakers with leaked documents that showed the company was aware of the harm Instagram is doing to young users.

Taking on the tech industry has long been a signature issue for Blumenthal, who

Turn to Instagram, Page 2

FARMINGTON

Report of school threat led parents to keep kids home

By Don Stacom Hartford Courant

About 40% of Farmington High School students stayed home Tuesday after social media reports of a recent shooting threat, but it was still unclear Wednesday afternoon whether any student had made a threat — or been disciplined.

Police and school administrators assured that the alleged threat wasn't credible, but parents complained on social media about

a lack of specific information. In the aftermath of the deadly Michigan school shooting, the Farmington incident touched off anxiety in town and drove parents to say they don't have enough information to know if the school is safe or not.

Educators, however, said uninformed social media postings were making the matter worse. The schools also reported that by

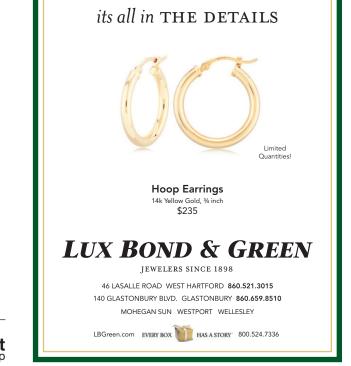
Turn to Threat, Page 3

Rosenworcel approved as next chair of FCC

West Hartford native Jessica Rosenworcel has been approved by the U.S. Senate as the next chair of the Federal Communications Commission, a powerful consumer protection authority in Washington, D.C. The Senate voted 68-31 on Tuesday to approve President Joe Biden's nomination of Rosenworcel to become permanent chair of the FCC. **CONNECTICUT, PAGE 1**

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Hartford Courant

First lady coming to greet Connecticut's Navy families

By Christopher Keating Hartford Courant

HARTFORD - First lady Jill Biden is coming to Connecticut on Thursday to meet U.S. Navy families.

Biden is scheduled to arrive with Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro for a Christmas party with the families of those serving on the USS Delaware, an attack submarine that was christened in October 2018.

The White House says Biden will arrive in the late afternoon for the party in Groton that will be hosted by United Through Reading, a nonprofit that supports military families.

The trip will be the second for Biden in the past eight months to Connecticut. She traveled in March

to Meriden, the hometown of U.S. Education Secretary Miguel Cardona, where they spoke with teachers and students during a tour of Benjamin Franklin Elementary School.

"It's been a love fest here in Connecticut," Biden said at the time. "Now our nation is going to have that love for you, Miguel. You were sworn in ... but I think an educator's favorite three words aren't 'I love you,' but 'Education Secretary Cardona.' "

Biden and Cardona arrived in Meriden about 24 hours after his swearing-in and soon after being confirmed by the U.S. Senate.

On Friday, Cardona will be back with Connecticut colleagues to celebrate

International Human Rights Day. Cardona will deliver opening remarks at the University of Connecticut on human rights education in a virtual Zoom event. Former U.S. Sen. Christopher J. Dodd will participate in a roundtable discussion with teachers and students Friday after-

After working as a fourth-

grade teacher in his hometown, Cardona became the state's youngest principal at age 27. Cardona later was nominated as state education commissioner by Gov. Ned Lamont and then national education secretary by President Joe Biden.

Christopher Keating can be reached at ckeating@ courant.com

Instagram

from Page 1

served as Connecticut's attorney general in the 2000s, at the dawn of the social media era. During the post-hearing press conference, he recalled pushing the once-popular Myspace platform for similar privacy and safety protections.

He has also compared Facebook and the other tech giants to Big Tobacco, which he successfully sued as state attorney general in the 1990s. Like cigarette manufacturers, Facebook executives knew their products are toxic and addictive yet they have taken no action, he said.

Blumenthal blamed Instagram's "sophisticated algorithms" that can exploit insecurities and trigger disordered eating, especially among teen girls.

"We've heard some pretty powerful and compelling evidence of the dangers of Big Tech to children's health and well-being," Blumenthal said. "Our nation is in the midst of a teen mental health crisis. Social media didn't create it but it's certainly fanned the flames and fueled it."

Mossari said he shares the senators' goals. "We all want teens to be safe online," he said.

After the hearing, Blumenthal said lawmakers were dissatisfied with the "vagueness and evasiveness" of many of Mossari's



 $Adam\,Mosseri, head\,of\,Instagram, testifies\,in\,a\,hearing\,of\,the\,Senate\,Commerce\,Committee's\,panel\,on\,consumer\,protection\,in$ Washington on Wednesday. T.J. KIRKPATRICK/THE NEW YORK TIMES

answers, and Blackburn and Blumenthal both questioned Instagram's commit-

The changes outlined the company are just proposals, Blackburn noted. "There's nothing they brought up that they are ready to implement today," she said.

Blumenthal said Meta, the company formerly known as Facebook and the corporate owner of Instagram, could put those protections in place immediately if it chose to.

"Some of the Big Tech companies have said 'trust us," Blumenthal said. "That seems to be what Instagram is saying...but self-policing depends on trust. The trust is gone."

Congress is considering a series of proposals to hold tech platforms accountable.

Blumenthal and Sen. Ed Markey of Massachusetts are sponsoring the Kids Internet Design and Safety Act, which proposes new

protections for users under 16. The legislation would ban push alerts that drive young people to compulsively check social media, eliminate the "like button" and follower counts that measure a post's popularity and bar websites aimed at kids and younger teens from amplifying violent or dangerous content, among other measures.

Lawmakers on both sides of the aisle expressed support for reforming Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act, a provision that protects tech companies such as Facebook from lawsuits over the content shared by users.

They are also pushing for an update to the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act, which places certain restrictions on websites used by children under 13. Those rules were adopted in 1998, well before the dawn of social media.

Lawmakers are seeking a change in the way Instagram's algorithms push out

Blumenthal predicted that tech companies such as Meta will fight any proposed changes. "We expect that there will be opposition for years," he said during the press conference after the hearing. "This industry has said it's in favor of government regulation ... but they have opposed specific measures with armies of lawyers, lobbyists and tons of money."

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PLAY3 DAY

LOTTERY Wednesday, Dec. 8

> **PLAY4 DAY** 1297ws:5

7 3 2 ws: 4 The late lotto numbers were not n in time for this edition. For results, please visit courant.com/ lottery.

TUESDAY'S LATE NUMBERS PLAY3 NIGHT 2 5 9 ws: 8 **PLAY4 NIGHT**

2146 ws:8 CASH 5 3 7 10 11 35 **LUCKY FOR LIFE** 24 31 41 43 44 LB: 15 LOTTO 4 7 15 20 30 42

1 7 40 43 68 MB: 1 MP: 2

MEGA MILLIONS



12/10 Martin Sexton

Siṇger-soṇgwṛiter, Sexton has released 9 albums blending soul, gospel, country, rock, blues, and R&B. Chris Trapper opens.

12/11 Frames in Film: The Danish Collector: Delacroix to Gauguin

From Denmark to Paris, this film presents some of the best examples of 19th-century French art ever collected. presened in partnership with the Florence Griswold Museum

12/12 CT Gay Men's Chorus: Bright Shiny Balls Glorious new takes on traditional Christmas favorites to infamously outrageous fun.

12/14 MIPSO

North Carolina-bred four-piece MIPS have captivated audiences with their finely layered vocal harmonies, graceful fluency in the timeless musical traditions of their home state. Tyalor Ashton Opens.

12/15 Old Lyme Town Band: Holiday Concert

Nothing says the holidays like the Old Lyme Town Band playing some festive selections for the season.

12/16 Kate Classic: One Christmas

The 1994 made-for-television drama film Henry Winkler and Swoosie Kurtz- based on the 1983 short story "One Christmas" by Truman Capote.

12/17 KT Tunstall

KT Tunstall burst onto the music scene in 2004 with her worldwide smash debut album "Eye To The Telescope – selling 5 million copies and spawning hits "Black Horse and the Cherry Tree" and "Suddenly I See."

12/18 The Drifters Music: Holiday & Hits

One of Rock & Roll's founding vocal groups is once again touring the U.S. under the auspices of their original mgt. While the faces have changed over the years, four dynamite artists continue to keep the music alive.











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FROM PAGE ONE

Threat

from Page 1

Wednesday, the absentee rate had dropped to 8%.

The matter had many parents on Facebook calling for a public meeting where educators would say exactly what did - and didn't happen.

But that doesn't appear likely; late Wednesday the school system issued a statement saying "We trust that our families and community understand that we cannot provide detailed information about any specific student or students."

Farmington residents have been talking about school safety all week after a social media post claimed that a Farmington High student had been suspended — but then allowed to return to classes after posting a threat to shoot other students.

Superintendent Kathleen Greider and police Chief Paul Melanson sent parents a letter advising that they'd found no credible threat to students' safety.

"A threat was reported at Farmington High School this week which

was deemed not credible by the Farmington Police Department after a thorough investigation," they wrote. "We want to assure you that the threat at FHS was deemed not credible. Making matters more challenging at FHS this week, school administrators were alerted to social media posts exacerbating fear and concern."

That letter to the district, and two more from Principal Scott Hurwitz to high school parents, did little to reduce the controversy.

"Rumors have been going around about what actually occurred, the parties involved, etc. Without having any sort of basic understanding of what actually occurred it's hard to reassure our kids," one parent wrote on the Talk of Farmington page on Facebook.

Jessica Martini offered a similar assessment. "At this point instead of protecting the privacy of the child who is in question, being vague has created an environment of fear and conjecture," she said. "Someone needs to step up and either clear the kid's name or tell the truth and get the kid real help because indoor



The usually packed parking lot at Farmington High School had plenty of open spaces on Wednesday afternoon, though educators said the absentee rate of 40% on Tuesday had been sharply reduced. DON STACOM/HARTFORD COURANT

detention has got to be the worst choice in light of the current environment."

As of late Wednesday, though, the school system was not even confirming that a student had posted a

threat.

Police on Wednesday evening sent out a statement that they'd talked to "people with firsthand knowledge of the alleged threat and determined it to be unsubstantiated," but did not elaborate.

Educators said additional police were at the school this week "to provide an extra sense of safety for

those who have expressed

a concern."

Hurwitz addressed students this week to say that counselors and social workers were available, and that the school regularly offers programs to bolster emotional well-being.

The school system said tensions are being fueled by social media postings that aren't accurate.

"Concerns are understandable," school board Chair Ellen Siuta said in a statement Wednesday afternoon. "However, it is imperative to know that there has been considerable misinformation being shared and re-circulated by individuals without firsthand knowledge of the underlying concern, and most of this information is inaccurate."

Educators and parents have been on edge because of the Michigan shooting and the impending anniversary of the Sandy Hook massacre. Over the past several days, police in Hamden arrested three teenagers accused of making social media threats against students at schools there as Connecticut towns have taken varied approaches to dozens of threats of violence.

Virus

from Page 1

a year ago in the form of the vaccine and boosters. But we still need to do a better job in protecting ourselves, our loved ones and our commu-

Cases and positivity rate: Connecticut reported 789 new COVID-19 cases Wednesday out of 15,841 tests, for a daily positivity rate of 4.98% — lower than the state has recorded in recent days but still much higher than at most other times this year. The state's seven-day positivity rate now stands at 6.11%, about even with Tuesday, when it reached its highest level since January.

The state has averaged nearly 1,526 daily COVID-19 cases over the past week, more than five times where its average stood just a

All eight Connecticut counties — as well as the rest of those in the Northeast region — are currently recording "high" levels of COVID-19 transmission as defined by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. With this level of transmission, the CDC advises people to wear a mask in public indoor settings.

Hospitalizations: As of Wednesday, Connecticut has 575 patients hospitalized with COVID-19, up 50 from Tuesday and the most at a time since Feb. 17. Hospitalizations have now increased 180% over the past month.



Troy Moien Afshar prepares COVID-19 booster shots on Tuesday at Hartford Hospital. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

According to the state, 76.9% of people hospitalized with COVID-19 are unvaccinated. Hospital officials say the rate is even higher when looking specifically at people with severe symptoms.

Deaths: Connecticut reports COVID-19 deaths on Thursdays. Last week, the state recorded 44 deaths, bringing its total during the

pandemic to 8,909. As COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations have surged in Connecticut over recent weeks, deaths have risen slightly but still remain far below the levels recorded

last winter.

The United States has now recorded 792,280 deaths related to COVID-19, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University.

Vaccinations: As of Wednesday, 85.3% of all Connecticut residents and 95.4% of those 12 and older

had received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, while 73% of all residents and 82.9% of those 12 and older were fully vaccinated, according to the CDC.

Additionally, about 30% of fully vaccinated Connecticut residents 18 or older have received a booster dose.

The CDC warns that courant.com.

misclassified as first doses. likely inflating the reported number of first-dose coverage and understating the true number of people who have received boosters.

booster shots are sometimes

Alex Putterman can be reached at aputterman@

Booster

from Page 1

outcomes from omicron. Scientists say it could take a month or more to understand the new variant's threat while Israel, Britain or other countries with sophisticated health surveillance systems gather more

Kathrin Jansen, a senior vice president and head of vaccine research and development at Pfizer, described the study as small and preliminary.

Researchers tested a total of 39 blood samples from individuals who had received either their second or third shot within the previous month.

The results seemed to underscore the importance of boosters in combating infection. President Joe Biden went out of his way to draw attention to the findings on Wednesday, telling reporters while they were only based on a lab report, they were "very, very encouraging."

"If you get the booster, you're really in good shape," he said.

Dr. Albert Bourla, the chairman and chief executive of Pfizer, said while two doses may still prevent severe disease from omicron, "it's clear from these preliminary data that protection is improved with



A health worker prepares a syringe as people wait for vaccines Wednesday in Johannesburg. **EMMANUEL CROSET/GETTY-AFP**

a third dose of our vaccine."

Dr. Ugur Sahin, the chief executive of BioNTech, Pfizer's German partner, said that "a third dose could still offer a sufficient level of protection from disease of any severity" from the vari-

The companies suggested that omicron would not significantly diminish the power of T cells — another. more lasting part of the immune system's response to the coronavirus.

Researchers identified parts of omicron that can be recognized by the T cells produced after vaccination.

Most did not contain any mutations.

Company officials did not release data showing how T cells actually perform against the variant; nor did they release the other data, instead summarizing the findings in a news release.

In the interview, Jansen said it is "very important" that the parts of omicron targeted by virus-killing cells were mostly unchanged from previous variants. "It gives comfort that you will have sufficient T cell responses to prevent the worst outcomes," she

Dr. Paul Offit, a vaccine expert with Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and a member of the Food and Drug Administration's vaccine advisory committee, said he also wanted "to sound a note of reassurance."

"The virus has mutated to the point that it has become less neutralizable by antibodies," he said. But he said there is no evidence that the vaccines have become less effective at preventing severe disease.

"In all likelihood, two doses of an mRNA vaccine will protect you against seri-

"In all likelihood, two doses of an mRNA vaccine will protect you against serious illness."

Dr. Paul Offit, a vaccine expert with Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and a member of the Food and Drug Administration's vaccine advisory committee

ous illness," he said.

Dr. Peter Hotez, a vaccine expert with the Baylor College of Medicine, called the results "really good news." But he noted that Pfizer's experiments only measured the levels of neutralizing antibodies one month after the third shot, saying he was concerned by other research suggesting that those levels might drop off later, more sharply than expected. Jansen said researchers used those blood samples because they had a very extensive data-

base on them. The results come one day after a preliminary report on laboratory experiments in South Africa also found omicron seemed to dull the power of two doses of Pfizer's vaccine. The South African experiments did not try to evaluate how well three

doses worked. Omicron has now spread to dozens of countries, and while the delta variant is still overwhelmingly dominant in the United States. the Biden administration is bracing for a new flood of cases from omicron.

While lab results are one indicator of what comes next, administration officials say it will take a month or two to get more definitive real-world data from countries like Israel that carefully track every patient.

"We shouldn't be making any definitive conclusions, certainly not before the next couple of weeks," Dr. Anthony Fauci, the U.S. government's top infectious disease expert, said at a White House briefing Tuesday.

He said early reports from South African medical officials presented a somewhat hopeful picture of omicron's impact. Researchers at a major hospital complex in Pretoria reported this week that patients with the coronavirus are significantly less ill than those they have treated before, and that other hospitals are seeing the same trends.

"We are not seeing a very severe profile of disease," Fauci said, adding that hospital stays were shorter and patients required less oxygen. "It might be, and I underscore might, be less severe, as shown by the ratio of hospitalizations per number of new cases."

WORLD&NATION

WWW COURANT COM

Jan. 6 panel takes aim at Meadows

Trump's former chief of staff fires back with lawsuit

By Mary Clare Jalonick Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The House committee investigating the Jan. 6 Capitol insurrection has "no choice" but to move forward with contempt charges against former Trump White House chief of staff Mark Meadows now that he is no longer complying with a subpoena, the panel's chairman said Wednesday.

In a letter to Meadows' lawyer, Rep. Bennie Thompson said Meadows has already provided documents to the committee, including personal emails and texts about Donald Trump's efforts to overturn his 2020 election defeat. Yet Meadows did not show up Wednesday for a scheduled deposition after the lawyer, George Terwilliger, told the committee that his client was ending his cooperation.

Thompson, D-Miss., noted in the letter that Meadows has also published a book, released this week, that discusses the Jan. 6 attack.

"That he would sell his telling of the facts of that day while denying a congressional committee the opportunity to ask him about the attack on our Capitol marks an historic and aggressive defiance of Congress," Thompson said in the letter to Terwilliger.

Hours after Thompson's move, Meadows filed a lawsuit against the commit-

Meadows' lawsuit, filed in federal court in Washington, asks a judge to inval-



Committee chairman Bennie Thompson is flanked last week by Reps. Zoe Lofgren, left, and Liz Cheney. J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

idate two subpoenas that he says are "overly broad and unduly burdensome." It accuses the committee of overreaching by issuing a subpoena to Verizon for his cellphone records.

"Allowing an entirely partisan select committee of Congress to subpoena the personal cell phone data of executive officials would work a massive chilling of current and future Executive Branch officials' associational and free speech rights," the lawsuit states.

The move to hold Meadows in contempt comes as the committee has struggled to gain compliance from a few of the former president's closest and most high-profile allies. Still, the committee has already

conducted more than 250 interviews with witnesses about the riot.

Committee leaders have said they intend to punish anyone who will not comply, and the House has already voted to hold longtime Trump ally Steve Bannon in contempt after he defied their subpoena. The Justice Department later indicted Bannon on two counts.

The documents that Meadows has provided, Thompson wrote, include communications from around the time of the presidential election in November 2020 and before the insurrection and involve White House efforts to overturn Joe Biden's election victory. Meadows provided the committee last month

with personal emails and backed-up data from his personal cellphone, including text messages, Thompson said.

The documents that Meadows turned over included an email dated Nov. 7, 2020 — the day Biden was declared the White House winner — that Thompson described as "discussing the appointment of alternate slates of electors as part of a 'direct and collateral attack' after the election."

Thompson did not say who sent the email or give further details.

Thompson also described an email that referenced a 38-page PowerPoint titled "Election Fraud, Foreign Interference & Options for 6 JAN" that Thompson said was intended to be shared on Capitol Hill. Thompson said it was dated Jan. 5, 2021, the day before hundreds of Trump's supporters violently breached the Capitol and interrupted the certification of Biden's victory.

A separate Nov. 6, 2020, text exchange between Meadows and an unidentified member of Congress, Thompson wrote, was "apparently about appointing alternate electors in certain states as part of a plan that the member acknowledged would be 'highly controversial,' and to which Mr. Meadows apparently said, 'I love it.'"

Also included in the documents, according to Thompson: A Jan. 5, 2021, email about having the

National Guard on standby the next day, an "early 2021 text message exchange" between Meadows and an organizer of the rally held the morning of Jan. 6, when Trump told his supporters to "fight like hell," and "text messages about the need for the former president to issue a public statement that could have stopped the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol."

Terwilliger did not respond to a request for comment on the letter or confirm the contents of the documents.

Meadows' decision to stop complying with the committee was a reversal after he had initially agreed to the deposition and after Terwilliger said the committee was open to allowing him to decline some questions based on Trump's executive privilege claims. Trump has attempted to hinder much of the committee's work by arguing that Congress cannot obtain information about his private White House conversations.

Terwilliger wrote the committee this week, however, that a deposition had become "untenable" because the committee "has no intention of respecting boundaries" around questions that Trump claims are off-limits.

Terwilliger also said he learned over the weekend that the committee had issued a subpoena to a third-party communications provider that he said would include "intensely personal" information about Meadows. "As a result of careful and deliberate consideration of these factors, we now must decline the opportunity to appear voluntarily for a deposition," Terwilliger wrote in the letter.

Biden-led global summit to promote democracy

Virtual meeting comes with the US seen as backsliding

By Lisa Mascaro Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden is convening global leaders Thursday to pledge strong new commitments to democracy, even as the U.S. is facing some of the gravest threats in years to its democratic traditions and institutions at home.

As the president launches the administration's inaugural Summit for Democracy, determined to show the world democracy can still work, the nation that's been long considered a shining example is seen by various measures as a backslider.

Local elected officials are resigning at an alarming rate amid confrontations with angry voices at school board meetings, elections offices and town halls. States are passing laws to limit access to the ballot. And the Jan. 6 attack at the Capitol has left many in one U.S. political party clinging to Donald Trump's false claims of a stolen election, eroding trust in the accuracy of the vote.

America must do better, critics at home and abroad insist.

"Can our democracy overcome the lies, anger, hate, and fears that have pulled us apart?" Biden asked during a joint session of Congress, months after the Capitol insurrection. "America's adversaries — the autocrats of the world — are betting

we can't."

It's an unsettling moment for the world's leading democracy as authoritarianism grows around the globe, raising questions about the United States' ability to lead and intensifying pressure on the Biden administration to not only promote democracy abroad but do more to shore it up at home

shore it up at home.
As allies gather for the two-day virtual summit, the White House is approaching the meeting "from a place of humility," understanding that no democracy is perfect, not even the U.S., according to a senior official granted anonymity to discuss the thinking at the White House.

At the forum, intended for some 110 participating countries to announce new commitments for strengthening democracy, Biden plans to speak about the importance of voting rights at home, much as he did at an anniversary celebration of the capital's Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial,

the official said. At the time, the president called voting "that fundamental right" and decried efforts to curtail it as "the most un-American thing" imaginable.

The president has also said that passage of his ambitious domestic agenda — the \$1 trillion bipartisan infrastructure bill he signed into law, as well as the roughly \$2 trillion "Build Back Better Act" of social and climate change initiatives moving through the Senate — will demonstrate how democracy can improve people's lives.

"The United States has a thriving democracy, but it's been hurting in recent years," said Michael Abramowitz, the president of Freedom House, whose annual report marked a 15th consecutive year of a global democratic slide.

Globally, meanwhile, this week's summit gets underway as outside groups are raising alarms about a worldwide slide of democracy, fueled by populations that have grown increasingly frustrated by stubborn income inequality and the COVID-19 crisis.

Authoritarianism is on the rise in some ostensibly democratic countries, alongside shifting attitudes about the best forms of govern-



President Biden, seen in Kansas City, Missouri, begins a two-day virtual summit on Thursday to seek renewed commitments to democracy from leaders around the world. **ALEX BRANDON/AP**

ment amid anti-democratic influences and commentary from China and Russia. A Pew report this week said that while "people like democracy, their commitment to it is often not very strong." Even wealthy countries, including the U.S., have some people who favor military rule, the report said.

Another group, the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, said in its annual report that the number of countries experiencing democratic backsliding "has never been as high" as the

past decade, with the U.S. added to the list alongside India and Brazil.

Biden faced his most dramatic test of defending democracy this week as Russia's growing military presence at Ukraine's border raised alarms in the West.

On Wednesday, Biden said he warned Russian President Vladimir Putin during their videoconference call on Tuesday that Moscow will face a severe economic pain if it tries to attack Ukraine, but promised prospective talks to address Russia's concerns about NATO's expansion.
Biden said he was "very straightforward" with Putin during their call, warning the Russian leader that he

will pay a heavy price if he

invades Ukraine.

"I made it very clear. If in fact he invades Ukraine, there will be severe consequences, severe consequences. Economic consequences like you've never seen," Biden said at the White House before departing for Kansas City, Missouri. "I am absolutely confident he got the message."

Justices likely to extend Maine tuition aid to religious schools

By Mark Sherman Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court appeared ready Wednesday to rule that religious schools can't be excluded from a Maine program that offers tuition aid for private education, a decision that could ease religious organizations' access to taxpayer money.

After nearly two hours of arguments, the court's six conservative justices seemed unpersuaded by Maine's position that the state is willing to pay for the rough equivalent of a public education, but not religious inculcation.

The court's three liberal justices signaled they were more aligned with the state's

arguments.

The case is the latest test of religious freedoms for a Supreme Court that has favored faith-based discrimination claims, including in other state programs that had sought to keep public money from religious orga-

nizations.

Justice Brett Kavanaugh used an example of neighbors, one choosing a secular private school and the other opting for a religious school for their children. The first family gets the state aid, but not the second.

"That's just discrimination on the basis of religion right there at the neighborhood level," Kavanaugh said.

But Justice Elena Kagan said Maine had seemed to design its program to avoid raising "questions of religious favoritism, religious division and so forth."

In Maine, the state allows families who live in towns that don't have public schools to receive public tuition dollars to send their children to the public or private school of their choosing. The program excludes religious schools. Students who live in a district with public schools or in a district that contracts with another public system are ineligible for the program.

r the program. Parents challenging the program argue that the exclusion of religious schools violates their religious rights under the Constitution. Teacher unions and school boards say states can impose limits on public money for private education without running afoul of religious freedoms.

To qualify for the Maine program, schools don't have to be in the state, or the United States, said Michael Bindas, a lawyer with the libertarian public interest law firm Institute for Justice

who argued on behalf of the parents.

But Christopher Taub, Maine's chief deputy attorney general, told the justices that the issue is whether the school is "inculcating people in a particular religion."

Taub drew the ire of Justice Samuel Alito, who noted that parents could send their children to private schools and have the state pick up part of the tab.

"That's the rough equivalent of a public education?" Alito asked derisively.

Stringent virus rules dull Hong Kong's luster

Associated Press

HONG KONG — The bustling, cosmopolitan business hub of Hong Kong may be losing its shine among foreign companies and expatriates with its stringent anti-pandemic rules requiring up to 21 days of quarantine for new arrivals.

The restrictions are discouraging both visitors and business travelers and add to other challenges the semi-autonomous Chinese territory faces as Beijing exerts ever more control over the former British colony.

For months, business circles have been urging the authorities to relax some quarantine restrictions, saying the city risks losing some of its international talent and appeal as a regional financial hub.

Some fumed when the city granted an exemption to the rules for JPMorgan Chase CEO Jamie Dimon, who visited the city for about a day in November. Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam said Dimon was given an exception related to the economy and that JPMorgan "is a very huge bank with key business in Hong Kong."

Actress Nicole Kidman also was exempted when she visited the city to film parts of a television series about expatriates, drawing ire from critics and local lawmakers over whether celebrities should be allowed to come and skip quarantine when Hong Kong residents pay dearly to return home.

Hong Kong's "COVIDzero" stance is in line with mainland China's policy of largely shutting its doors to the international world to try to prevent cases being brought into the country.

The restrictions have tightened further in light of the new omicron coronavirus variant, which was confirmed in at least four people in the city. Hong Kong authorities have designated about 60 countries as highrisk areas including the U.S.,



Thanks to the co-founder of the Hong Kong-based restaurant group he works for, Sandeep Arora, center, will be able to see his son in India. Hong Kong's strict virus restrictions are adversely affecting foreign companies and expatriates. **KIN CHEUNG/AP**

Britain, Australia and any country with confirmed omicron cases.

For travelers from highrisk areas, only Hong Kong residents are allowed in and they must quarantine at their own expense for 21 days at a hotel. Travelers arriving from certain African countries such as South Africa and Zimbabwe that have reported locally transmitted omicron infections must spend seven days at a government facility while undergoing daily testing and then stay two weeks at a hotel, also at their own expense.

Only travelers from China are largely exempted from quarantine, though those traveling from Hong Kong into most provinces in mainland China must still isolate for three weeks.

Lam, Hong Kong's leader, has emphasized she's more concerned with resuming quarantine-free cross-border travel with mainland China than with international travel.

The prolonged restrictions are hurting Hong Kong's competitiveness, said Tara Joseph, president of the American Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong. Many chambers of commerce in the city have asked repeatedly for the city to reopen to visitors at the earliest opportunity since the restrictions make it hard for businesses to connect with clients and compete internationally.

"We're not seeing any overt effort to provide plans for how Hong Kong is going to get back on track to open its international borders, and this is very difficult for businesses," Joseph said.

She resigned from her position as AmCham president last month after failing to get the government to ease coronavirus restrictions.

Frederik Gollob, the chairman of The European Cham-

ber of Commerce in Hong Kong, wrote an open letter to the Hong Kong government in August saying the city's tough quarantines could "lead many in the international community to question if they want to remain indefinitely trapped in Hong Kong when the rest of the world is moving on."

Many foreigners living in Hong Kong have tired of the restrictions and are thinking of heading for greener pastures. More than 40% of members polled in a recent AmCham survey said they might leave the city.

"I think most expatriates in Hong Kong have tried to stay here as long as possible. They really value the work opportunities that they have but travel restrictions, really tough quarantine measures, have stopped people from seeing loved ones back in their home countries," said Mark Tibbatts, managing director at recruitment

agency Michael Page.

Urgent action is needed to prevent many qualified professionals from leaving, he said.

"I really think that going into next year, if there aren't clear signs that there will be an improvement, or at least a lowering of quarantine restrictions, then people will have to make plans where they will have to commit to — particularly things like education (for their children)," he said.

Summer Wang, an American expatriate who arrived in the city not long before the pandemic began, plans to return to the U.S. before Christmas.

"I knew I would leave Hong Kong eventually because of work reasons, but I decided to leave sooner because of the 21-day quarantine," said Wang, who has done two hotel quarantines in the city since the pandemic began.

"Quarantine is bearable once or twice, but unless you're willing to stay separated from family for long, unpredictable stretches of time, the current quarantine measurements are unsustainable," she said. "I'm paying to be miserable."

Some companies in Hong Kong, such as JPMorgan Chase, Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley have started offering to cover quarantine costs for employees. A 21-day stay in the city's cheapest quarantine hotel costs at least \$1,200 for one person.

Black Sheep Restaurants, a Hong Kong-based restaurant group offering various cuisines, plans to spend about \$650,000 to fly more than 250 of its foreign employees home to see their families and cover resulting quarantine costs, said Syed Asim Hussain, one of its co-founders.

"You know, we do this strange thing which is giving strangers hospitality, and looking after people through food and drink night after night," Hussain said. "And I felt that we had to look after ourselves as well in this difficult environment."

It's financially painful, but he said he hopes the initiative will "create immeasurable goodwill within our community and beyond."

Sandeep Arora, a restaurant manager at Black Sheep's New Punjab Club, said the effort will allow him to visit his hometown in India, since paying for tickets, quarantine and testing would have been beyond his means.

Arora is looking forward to eating his mother's baigan bharta — an eggplant dish typically served with flatbread — and seeing his son.

"The main thing is my son — he's growing very fast. He was 6 years old when I saw him last, and now he's turning 8," he said. "Every day is very important ... especially for me to be with him as a father."



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'There is nothing here,' Afghans say

Desperation drives several thousand per day into Iran

By Lee Keath and Mstyslav Chernov Associated Press

HERAT, Afghanistan — Over the course of an hour on a recent night, the bus waiting in the Herat station filled with passengers. Mostly young men, they had no luggage, just the clothes on their backs, maybe a bag with some bread and water for the long road ahead of them.

That road is leading them to Iran. Every day, multiple buses rumble out of Afghanistan's western city of Herat, carrying hundreds of people to the border. There they disembark, connect with their smugglers and trek for days, sometimes crammed into pickup trucks bumping through wastelands, sometimes on foot through treacherous mountains in the darkness, eluding guards and thieves.

Once in Iran, most will stay there to look for work. But a few hope to go farther.

"We're going to get to Europe," said Haroun, a 20-year-old sitting in the bus next to his friend, Fuad. Back in their village there is no work. "We have no choice, the economy here is a wreck. Even if it means our death on the way, we accept that."

Afghans stream across the border into Iran in accelerating numbers, driven by desperation. Since the Taliban takeover in mid-August, Afghanistan's economic collapse has accelerated, robbing millions of work and leaving them unable to feed their families. In the past three months, more than 300,000 people have crossed illegally into Iran, according to the Norwegian Refugee Council, and more are coming at the rate of 4,000 to 5,000 a day.

The European Union is now bracing for a poten-



Men sit in a bus on Nov. 22 in Herat, Afghanistan, for a 300-mile trip south to the sparsely populated Nimrooz region in an effort to enter Iran. Driven by desperation, about 4,000 to 5,000 Afghans stream into Iran each day. **PETROS GIANNAKOURIS/AP**

tial swell in Afghans trying to reach its shores at a time when EU nations are determined to lock down against migrants in general.

So far, a post-Taliban surge of Afghan migrants to Europe hasn't materialized. Afghan entries into the EU have "remained mostly stable," according to an EU weekly migration report from Nov. 21. The report noted that some Afghans who arrived in Italy from Turkey in November told authorities they had fled their country after the Taliban takeover.

But a significant portion of migrants likely intend to stay in Iran, which is struggling to shut its doors. It already hosts more than 3 million Afghans who fled their homeland during the past decades of turmoil.

Iran is stepping up deportations, sending 20,000 or 30,000 Afghans back every week. This year, Iran deported more than 1.1

million Afghans as of Nov. 21 - 30% higher than the total in all of 2020, according to the International Organization for Migration. Those deported often try again, over and over.

In Afghanistan, the exodus has emptied some villages of their men. In Jar-e Sawz, a village north of Herat visited by Associated Press, an elderly man was the only male left after all the younger men left.

One smuggler in Herat — a woman involved in the business for two decades — said that before the Taliban takeover, she was transporting 50 or 60 people a week into Iran, almost all single men. Since the August takeover, she moves around 300 people a week, including women and children.

"The country is destroyed so people have to leave," she said, speaking on condition she not be named because of her work. "I feel like I'm doing the right thing. If some poor person asks me, I can't refuse them. I ask God to help me help them."

She charges the equivalent of almost \$400 per person, but only about \$16 up front, with the rest paid after the migrant finds work. The pay-later system is common in Herat, a sign that there are so many migrants, smugglers can accept some risk that some will be unable to pay. Along the way, smugglers pass out bribes to Taliban, Pakistani and Iranian border guards to turn a blind eye, she said.

Everyone going gives the same reason.

"There is nothing here. There is no work and our families are hungry," said Naib, a 20-year-old who was pausing with a group of migrants one night in a desolate area within sight of the Iranian border outside Herat. "We go crawling if we have to. There is no other choice."

Afghanistan was already

one of the poorest countries in the world before the Taliban takeover, and the economy has deteriorated the past year, worsened by the pandemic and a punishing drought since late 2020.

When the Taliban came to power on Aug. 15, the main artery keeping Afghanistan's economy alive — international donor funds — was severed. With the Taliban government unable to pay salaries, hundreds of thousands of state employees found themselves with no livelihoods.

Farid Ahmed, a 22-yearold in Herat, used to go to a main square each day to be hired by building contractors for a day's work. He found work most days.

"Now we wait all day, and no one comes to hire us," he said.

So last month, he took his wife and their two young daughters — ages 8 months and 2 years — across the border. From a relative

already there, he heard that a Tehran weaving factory had jobs for him and his wife. Once in Iran, they were almost immediately caught by police and deported.

Back home, nothing has changed. He goes to the square every day but finds no work, he said. So he will try taking his family again.

Herat, Afghanistan's third-largest city, is a main hub for Afghans from other parts of the country making their way to Iran.

The city is only an hour's drive from the Iranian border, but the frontier is too heavily patrolled here. Instead, migrants embark on a 300-mile trip south to Nimrooz, a region of deserts and mountains that is Afghanistan's most sparsely populated province.

It's an arduous journey.

It's an arduous journey. Reza Rezaie, a Herat resident, made the trip with his 17-year-old son. The most harrowing moment comes at the Iranian-Pakistani border, where migrants must ascend and then descend Moshkelghar, literally "Difficult Mountain," on narrow trails along steep drop-offs.

"It's pitch darkness and you can't turn on flashlights for security," he recalled. On the way up, they walk in single file, each holding the scarf of the person in front of them. Descending on the Iranian side, they gingerly crawl down so they don't tumble off the edge.

"If you fall, no one will help you because they will fall too," he said.

At one point in Iran, he and others hid in the luggage compartment under a bus to get around checkpoints. He worked for a few weeks doing construction in Shiraz before he was caught in a police raid and expelled.

But he is undaunted. His father recently died, so he has to wait for the 40-day mourning period to end. Then he'll try Iran again.

"What else can I do? Here, there is nothing," he said.



Providence, R.I. New infections are climbing across the country. **DAVID GOLDMAN/AP**

US reaches shot milestone amid a jump in virus cases

By Sophia Tareen and Jennifer McDermott Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — The number of Americans fully vaccinated against COVID-19 reached 200 million Wednesday amid a dispiriting holiday-season spike in cases and hospitalizations that has hit even New England, one of the most highly inoculated corners of the country.

New cases in the U.S. climbed from an average of nearly 95,000 a day on Nov. 22 to almost 119,000 a day this week, and hospitalizations are up 25% from a month ago. The increases are due almost entirely to the delta variant, though the omicron mutation has been detected in about 20 states and is sure to spread.

Deaths are running close to 1,600 a day on average, back up to where they were in October. And the overall U.S. death toll less than two years into the crisis could hit another heartbreaking milestone, 800,000, in a matter of days.

The situation is not as dire as last year's holiday-season surge, before

the public had access to COVID-19 vaccines, but the 60% of the U.S. population that is fully vaccinated has not been enough to prevent hot spots.

The cold weather, Thanksgiving gatherings and a rebound in holiday travel are believed to be playing a role, along with public weariness with pandemic restrictions.

Demand for the vaccine has been high amid the surge and the emergence of the omicron variant, whose dangers are still not fully understood.

Nearly 48 million people

Nearly 48 million people have received a booster, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. White House officials noted the U.S. administered 12.5 million shots last week, the highest weekly total since May.

"And that's critical progress as we head into the winter and confront the new omicron variant," White House coronavirus adviser Jeffrey Zients said.

At the same time, some states, notably in highly vaccinated New England, but also in the Midwest, are grappling with some of the worst surges since the start

of the pandemic. Hospitals are filling up and reacting by canceling non-urgent surgeries or taking other crisis measures.

Despite one of the highest vaccination levels in the country — over 74% of the population fully vaccinated — Vermont is coping with its biggest surge yet. In the last week, new cases per day are up 54%, and the number of people in the hospital with COVID-19 has climbed 18%.

The virus is preying on those who haven't gotten their shots: As of Tuesday, 90% of the COVID-19 patients in intensive care were unvaccinated.

Elsewhere around the country, Indiana has seen COVID-19 hospital admissions double in the last month and is approaching levels not seen since this time a year ago, before vaccines were widely available.

The number of people in intensive care in Minnesota has reached the highest level yet during the pandemic, with 98% of ICU beds occupied. Teams of military medics have been sent into Michigan and New Mexico.

Scott Peterson resentenced to life for wife's death in '02

By Don Thompson Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif.

Nearly 17 years after being sentenced to die, Scott Peterson was resentenced to life without parole Wednesday during an emotional hearing in which family members of his slain pregnant wife, Laci, called him out for the killing in 2002 and his apparent lack

of remorse.

"I still feel the grief every day, after 19 years," said her mother, Sharon Rocha.

"Your evil, self-centered, unforgiveable selfish act ended two beautiful souls. And for what reason? There was no reason other than that you just didn't want them anymore. You didn't want a baby nor the responsibility of being a father.

You're a coward."

"I have dreams about her," she added about her daughter, who was 27 and eight months pregnant when she was killed carrying the boy the couple planned to pame Connor.

planned to name Connor.

The California Supreme
Court ruled a year ago that
Peterson's jury was improperly screened for bias
against the death penalty.
Stanislaus County District
Attorney Birgit Fladager,
who came to fame as one of
three prosecutors in Peterson's trial, opted this time to
settle for life without parole.

Peterson's attorney, Pat Harris, said his client has shown no remorse because he's not guilty. He said, as he has in the past, that the defense can now prove that burglars were nearby on the day Laci disappeared — though investigators say they were ruled out as suspects.

Peterson was uniformly described as a loving husband and expectant father, Harris said, until it became public that he was having an affair at the time of his wife's disappearance.

of his wife's disappearance. Then "he quickly became the most hated man in



Scott Peterson listens to his attorney during a hearing Wednesday at the San Mateo County Superior Court in Redwood City, Calif. **ANDY ALFARO/THE MODESTO BEE**

America," Harris said, with a billboard outside the courtroom asking if he was a "man or monster."

Peterson was prepared to speak, something Peterson didn't do during his initial trial and sentencing, Harris said, but Superior Court Judge Anne-Christine Massullo didn't allow it.

Peterson's supporters were in the courtroom to show their support, but they were not allowed to speak.

Massullo resentenced Peterson without adding comment. She is separately considering if Peterson was prejudiced by juror misconduct.

He had been in San Quentin State Prison, home to California's death row, since he was condemned to death in March 2005. That followed his conviction in November 2004 during a trial that was moved 90 miles to San Mateo County because of publicity.

But Massullo said he couldn't stay on death row once prosecutors said they would not again seek his execution. He was moved to the county jail for resentencing and is expected to remain there until Massullo decides on whether he should get a new trial.

She plans about a weeklong hearing starting Feb. 25 to hear defense claims that the woman known as Juror 7 falsely answered questions during selection.

They say she actively sought to join the jury and later co-authored a book on the case. Richelle Nice has not been named in court papers but co-authored the book with six other jurors.

Defense lawyers contend she was biased because she had been a crime victim, which she did not disclose during jury selection. They learned only later that she had been beaten by a boyfriend in 2001 while she was pregnant. She obtained a restraining order during another pregnancy against a boyfriend's ex-girlfriend because she was fearful the woman would harm her unborn child.

Nice said in a court filing that she didn't think the restraining order was a lawsuit that she had to disclose on her jury form, nor did she "feel 'victimized' the way the law might define that term."

Prosecutors say Peterson took his wife's body from their Modesto home on Christmas Eve 2002 and dumped her from his fishing boat into the San Francisco Bay, where they washed ashore in April





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NEWS BRIEFING

Biden sets deadline for government to use renewable energy

From news services

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden unveiled a plan Wednesday to make the federal government carbon neutral, ordering federal agencies to buy electric vehicles, to power facilities with wind, solar and nuclear energy, and to use sustainable building materials.

In a series of executive orders, Biden called on the government to transform its 300,000 buildings, 600,000 cars and trucks, and use its annual purchases of \$650 billion in goods and services to meet his goal of a federal government that stops adding carbon dioxide into the atmosphere by 2050.

From his earliest days in office, Biden said he intended to use the federal government as a model and to help spur the markets for green energy. The executive orders signed Wednesday set a timetable for the transition.

By 2030, Biden wants the federal government to purchase electricity produced only from sources that do not emit carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases that are warming the planet. And by 2032, the Biden administration wants to see the emissions produced by buildings cut in half.

The executive action was first reported by The Washington Post.

If implemented, the moves could give a significant boost to the clean energy market, experts said.

"It's a similar strategy to what China is doing so successfully, leveraging the purchasing power of their government to create demand that markets can meet," said Joshua Freed, senior vice president for climate and energy at Third Way, a centrist Democratic research group.

"The federal government in so many areas is one of, if not the largest, purchaser," Freed said, noting that the government spends about \$5 billion annually buying concrete. Setting standards for more environmentally sustainable products as well as clean energy and zero-emissions vehicles, he said, would have a "huge influence" on the private

India helicopter crash: India's military chief, Gen. Bipin Rawat, and 12 others were killed Wednesday in a helicopter crash in southern Tamil Nadu state, the air force said.

It said in a tweet that the helicopter "met with a tragic accident."

The dead included Rawat's wife. The air force said one officer, Group Capt. Varun Singh, survived and is being treated in a military hospital.

The air force said the Russian-made Mi-17V5 helicopter was on its way from an air force base to the army defense services college when it crashed near the town of Coonoor, a hill station in Tamil Nadu. The reason for the crash was not known.

Television images from the crash site showed plumes of smoke billowing from the debris as local residents tried to put out the fire and remove bodies from the wreckage.

Outbreak in Britain: British Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Wednesday ordered an inquiry and said he was "furious" after a leaked video showed senior members of his staff joking about holding a lockdown-breaching Christmas party.

The video has poured fuel on allegations that officials in the Conservative government flouted coronavirus rules they imposed on every-



German Chancellor Olaf Scholz gives a bouquet of flowers Wednesday to his predecessor, Angela Merkel, after she handed over the office at the chancellery in Berlin. Members of the parliament elected Scholz, 63, as the country's next chancellor, ushering in a new political era with the center-left leader in charge. **JOHN MACDOUGALL/GETTY-AFP**

one else. The release came as Johnson urged people to work from home and introduced vaccine passes for crowded venues to try and slow the spread of the new omicron variant.

"I understand and share the anger up and down the country" at officials seeming to make light of lockdown rules, Johnson said.

"I was also furious to see that clip," he told lawmakers in the House of Commons. "I apologize unreservedly for the offense that it has caused up and down the country, and I apologize for the impression it gives."

For days, the prime minister's office has been trying to rebut reports that Johnson's staff held a December 2020 office party when pandemic regulations banned most social gatherings.

Colorado elections security: Colorado's Democratic secretary of state is asking lawmakers for \$200,000 annually for guards and other security-related measures after receiving escalating

threats over her advocacy of elections security.

Jena Griswold has consistently debunked claims that the 2020 presidential election was stolen.

She's also sued a Republican county clerk in western Colorado who is under federal investigation for allegedly breaching security protocols involving voting machines and has become a leading elections conspiracy figure popular with the right.

With the online threats escalating, Griswold's office is seeking \$200,000 annually from the Legislature to "address election-related concerns" from the threats. The funds would pay for a vendor to track threats on social media and for guards for Griswold and some staff at public events, The Colorado Sun reported Wednes-

day.

"Like other agencies responsible for carrying out elections across the country, the Colorado Secretary of State's office has experienced an unprecedented spike in

threats toward the secretary of state and the office," said Griswold spokesperson Annie Orloff.

Christmas tree fire: A man was charged with arson and other crimes Wednesday for setting fire to a 50-foot Christmas tree in front of Fox News headquarters in midtown Manhattan, police said

The artificial tree outside of the News Corp. building that houses Fox News, The Wall Street Journal and the New York Post caught fire shortly after midnight, police said.

Photos and videos from the scene show the fully decorated tree going up in flames.

Fox News host Shannon Bream announced the fire to viewers as firefighters were working to put it out.

Firefighters extinguished the flames, and no injuries were reported.

International Space the space Station: A Japanese billionaire and his producer rockbeen

eted to space Wednesday and reached the International Space Station several hours later, the first visit by self-paying space tourists to the orbiting outpost in more than a decade.

Fashion tycoon Yusaku Maezawa and producer Yozo Hirano, who plans to film his mission, blasted off for the International Space Station in a Russian Soyuz spacecraft along with Russian cosmonaut Alexander Misurkin.

The trio lifted off as scheduled aboard Soyuz MS-20 from the Russia-leased Baikonur launch facility in Kazakhstan and docked at the orbiting outpost almost six hours later.

crew will be able to open the hatches and move to the space station from the Soyuz.

In several more hours, the

Maezawa and Hirano are scheduled to spend 12 days in space.

The two are the first self-paying tourists to visit the space station since 2009. The price of the trip hasn't been disclosed.



The \$50 Cashmere Sweater

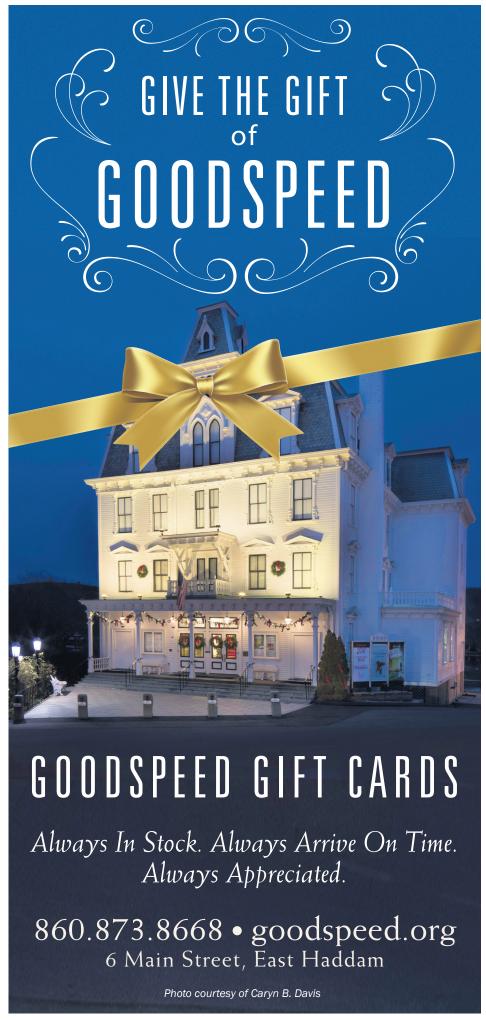
Yep, you read that right.
100% Grade A Mongolian cashmere.
1,000+ reviews, 10 colors, and 50-75% less
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BUSINESS

US job openings surge

Wages rising as the number of workers quitting dips slightly to 4.2M

By Christopher Rugaber

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. employers posted 11 million open jobs in October, nearly matching a record high reached in July and a sign that companies were confident enough in the economy to expand.

The government report Wednesday also showed that the number of people quitting their jobs dropped slightly in October to 4.2 million, from 4.4 million in September, though that is still the third-highest number of monthly resignations on records dating back to 2000.

The figures from the Labor Department's Job Openings and Labor Turnover survey, or JOLTS, show that with so many companies chasing relatively few unemployed people, job-seekers have the most bargaining power they have had in at least two decades. Wages are rising at a healthy pace, particularly for lower-paid employees, though much of that bump in pay is being eroded by higher inflation.

There were just 7.4 million people

counted as unemployed in October.

Last week, the government reported that the unemployment rate fell in November, to 4.2% from 4.6%, as more than 1 million people said they found jobs. But it also said only 210,000 jobs were created, the fewest in nearly a year and less than half the previous month's gain, leaving a more convoluted picture. The jobs figure is based on a separate survey than the one used to compile the unemployment rate.

The JOLTS report Wednesday reflects October data, when new COVID-19 infections were still falling and before the emergence of the omicron variant, which could dampen the economy in the coming

Larger paychecks are luring many employees to leave their jobs for new work, pushing up the number of quits. A high number of resignations is a sign of a strong labor market because it shows that people are confident they can find a new job. The vast majority of people who quit do so to

Separate data from the Federal Reserve

Bank of Atlanta shows that people switching jobs are receiving bigger pay raises than those who stay put.

Companies are also paying larger bonuses to attract and keep workers. According to Gusto, a company that provides pay and benefits software to small businesses, 14% of all paychecks on its platform now include bonuses, up from 11% a year ago, and the average size of the bonus has more than tripled over that period to about \$1,670.

Job openings rose about 4% in October to 11 million, just below July's peak of 11.1 million. The biggest increase was in restaurants, bars and hotels, where they leapt nearly 20% to 1.6 million. Restaurant traffic and travel increased that month as coronavirus cases waned.

Other job openings data reflect how the economy is evolving in a pandemic. According to job listings website Indeed, the number of available positions for loading and stocking jobs, primarily in warehouses, has more than doubled from its pre-pandemic level, evidence of the rapid rise in e-commerce.



Amazon drivers head back to their vans as the company's logistics systems go back online at a delivery station in Rosemead, Calif., on Tuesday. Amazon Web Services suffered a major outage affecting cloud computing services for individuals, universities, governments and companies, including The Associated Press. DAMIAN DOVARGANES/AP

Amazon outage underscores vulnerability of the internet

Hartford Courant among companies impacted by Tuesday disruption

By Frank Bajak and Barbara Ortutay Associated Press

A major outage in Amazon's cloud computing network Tuesday severely disrupted services at a wide range of U.S. companies for more than five hours, the latest sign of just how concentrated the business of keeping the internet running

The incident at Amazon Web Services mostly affected the eastern U.S., but still impacted everything from airline reservations and auto dealerships to payment apps and video streaming services to Amazon's own massive e-commerce operation. That included The Associated Press, whose publishing system was inoperable for much of the day, greatly limiting its ability to publish its news report.

The Hartford Courant, the oldest continuously published newspaper in the country, was forced to curtail its daily newspaper to one section. New articles could not be published online for much of the day.

Amazon has still said nothing about what, exactly, went wrong. In fact, the company limited its communications Tuesday to terse technical explanations on an AWS dashboard and a brief statement delivered via spokesperson Richard Rocha that acknowledged the outage had affected Amazon's own warehouse and delivery operation but said the company was "working to resolve the issue as quickly as possible."

Roughly five hours after numerous companies and other organizations began reporting issues, the company said in a post on the AWS status page that it had "mitigated" the underlying problem responsible for the outage, which it did not describe. It took some affected companies hours more to thoroughly check their systems and restart their own services.

Amazon Web Services was formerly run by Amazon CEO Andy Jassy, who succeeded founder Jeff Bezos in July. The cloud-service operation is a huge profit center for Amazon. It holds roughly a third of the \$152 billion market for cloud services, according to a report by Synergy Research — a larger share than its closest rivals, Microsoft and Google, combined.

To technologist and public data access activist Carl Malamud, the AWS outage highlights how much Big Tech has warped the internet, which was originally designed as a distributed and decentralized network intended to survive mass disasters such as nuclear attack.

"When we put everything in one place, be it Amazon's cloud or Facebook's monolith, we're violating that fundamental principle," said Malamud, who developed the internet's first radio station and later put a vital U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission database online. "We saw that when Facebook became the instrument of a massive disinformation campaign, we just saw that today with the Amazon failure."

Widespread and often lengthy outages resulting from single-point failures appear increasingly common. In June, the behindthe-scenes content distributor Fastly suffered a failure that briefly took down dozens of major internet sites including CNN, The New York Times and Britain's government home page.

Then in October, Facebook — now known as Meta Platforms — blamed a "faulty configuration change" for an hours-long worldwide outage that took down Instagram and WhatsApp in addition to its titular platform.

This time, problems began midmorning on the U.S. East Coast, said Doug Madory, director of internet analysis at Kentik Inc, a network intelligence firm. Netflix was one of the more prominent names affected; Kentik saw a 26% drop in traffic to the streaming service.

Customers trying to book or change trips with Delta Air Lines had trouble

connecting to the airline. "Delta is working quickly to restore functionality to our AWS-supported phone lines," said spokesperson Morgan Durrant. The airline apologized and encouraged customers to use its website or mobile app instead.

Dallas-based Southwest Airlines said it switched to West Coast servers after some airport-based systems were affected by the outage. Customers were still reporting outages to DownDetector, a popular clearinghouse for user outage reports, more than three hours after they started. Southwest spokesman Brian Parrish said there were no major disruptions to flights.

Toyota spokesman Scott Vazin said the company's U.S. East Region for dealer services went down. The company has apps that access inventory data, monthly payment calculators, service bulletins and other items. More than 20 apps were

Also according to DownDetector, people trying to use Instacart, Venmo, Kindle, Roku, and Disney+ reported issues. The McDonald's app was also down. But the airlines American, United, Alaska and JetBlue were unaffected.

Madory said he saw no reason to suspect nefarious activity. He said the recent cluster of major outages reflects how complex the networking industry has become. "More and more these outages end up being the product of automation and centralization of administration," he said. "This ends up leading to outages that are hard to completely avoid due to operational complexity but are very impactful when they happen."

It was unclear how, or whether, the outage was affecting the federal government. The U.S. Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency said in an email response to questions that it was working with Amazon "to understand any potential impacts this outage may have for federal agencies or other partners."

Drug firm 'Pharma Bro' ran to pay \$40M in suit

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — A company once owned by "Pharma Bro" Martin Shkreli will pay up to \$40 million to settle allegations that it jacked up the price of a life-saving medication by roughly 4,200% after obtaining exclusive rights to the drug and blocked other companies from creating cheaper versions, the Federal Trade Commission said this week.

The FTC said Tuesday that Vyera Pharmaceuticals LLC and its parent company, Phoenixus AG, agreed to settle allegations that it gouged buyers and monopolized sales of Daraprim.

The medication is used to treat toxoplasmosis, an infection that can be deadly for people with HIV or other immune-system problems and can cause serious problems for children born to women infected while

Vyera raised the price of the decades-old drug from \$17.50 to \$750 per pill after obtaining exclusive rights to it in 2015.

"Should be a very handsome investment for all of us," Shkreli put it in an email to a contact at the time.

The increase left some patients facing co-pays as high as \$16,000 and sparked an outcry that fueled congressional hearings. The company was sued in federal court

in New York by the FTC and seven states: New York, California, Illinois, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Virginia. The settlement doesn't stop litigtaion

against Shkreli, who was dubbed the "Pharma Bro" and allegedly masterminded the scheme as Vyera's first CEO. The lawsuit filed against him by the FTC and the states is scheduled for trial next

Shkreli is serving a seven-year prison sentence for a securities-fraud conviction related to hedge funds he ran before getting into the pharmaceuticals industry.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Facebook widens ban in Myanmar

BANGKOK - Facebook's parent company $Meta\,said\,Wednesday\,it\,has\,expanded\,its\,ban$ on postings linked to Myanmar's military to include all pages, groups, and accounts representing military-controlled businesses. It had already banned advertising from such businesses in February.

The February action followed the army's seizure of power from the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi.

The new action came a day after a high-profile lawsuit was filed against Meta Platforms seeking over \$150 billion for the company's alleged failure to stop hateful posts that incited violence against the Muslim Rohingya minority by Myanmar's military and its supporters, which crested

Kellogg's union rejects 3% offer

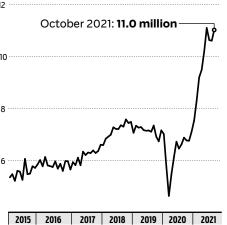
Kellogg's workers rejected a contract offer Tuesday that would have provided 3% raises, so 1,400 workers at the company's four U.S. cereal plants will remain on strike.

The Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers International Union said an overwhelming majority of workers voted down the five-year offer that would have also provided cost of living adjustments in the later years of the deal and preserved current health care benefits.

The workers have been on strike since Oct. 5 at plants in Battle Creek, Michigan; Omaha, Nebraska; Lancaster, Pennsylvania; and Memphis, Tennessee. Kellogg's said it will now move forward with plans to start hiring permanent replacements for the striking workers.

Job openings

Monthly, in millions



SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Health care union reaches tentative deal with Sunrise

By Seamus McAvoy Hartford Courant

A union representing striking health care workers reached a tentative contract agreement Wednesday with Sunrise Northeast Inc., a nonprofit group home operator, which union representatives say includes "industry leading standards" for wage increases as well as health care and retirement benefits.

The agreement, once ratified by members of SEIU affiliate District 1199 New England, will end a nearly two-month strike which began after contract negations collapsed in October despite a \$184 million state funding package intended to increase benefits for chronically overworked and underpaid health care workers in Connecticut.

"With this contract we have achieved historic wage increases, real affordable health care and a retirement with dignity," Charmayne Brown, who has worked for Sunrise for 14 years, said in a statement. "My coworkers and I look forward to getting back to our clients whom we love and miss."

As the nationwide labor movement gained momentum following a wave of strikes across the country in 2021, nearly 1,000 industry workers in Connecticut signed new contracts with drastic reductions in health insurance premiums and increases for low-salary workers.

The agreements deterred three potential strikes, but not at Sunrise, which employs 149 workers, who are mostly female and largely minority, across its 28 group home and day care programs.

Staff members were paying monthly premiums of \$3,800 to \$6,000, all while most earned less than \$17 an hour, Rob Baril, president of District 1199NE, previously told The Courant.

Employees who spoke to the Courant in October detailed how they elected to go without health insurance due to the high premiums, even as the COVID-19 pandemic swept the state. Several said they lacked coverage for their first few years of employment.

Sunrise Executive Director Dawn Frey said in October the company had reached a tentative agreement to increase wages and had applied for additional state funding. The company was focused "on reaching a fair contract that enables us



Health care workers picket outside Sunrise Northeast Inc. in Hartford in October. The workers' union reached a tentative contract agreement Wednesday with the nonprofit group home operator following a nearly two-month strike. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

to continue the good work our organization has done in Connecticut for years," she said.

The tentative contract agreement is set to be retroactive to July 1, once ratified, and will expire in March

2023. Specific details regarding the new contract were not released due to the tentative nature of the agreement, union officials said.

"We see this agreement as an enormous step forward in the fight for economic and

racial justice," Stephanie Deceus, District 1199 vice president, said in a statement.

Seamus McAvoy may be reached at smcavoy@ courant.com

DoorDash employs full-time workers to speed up delivery

By Dee-Ann Durbin

Associated Press

Starting this week. Door-

Dash began offering grocery delivery in 15 minutes or less in the Chelsea neighborhood in New York. But instead of the army of

gig workers it typically relies on to fulfill orders, DoorDash is forming a new company called DashCorps — to employ couriers to handle the deliveries.

Unlike DoorDash's gig workers, who set their own hours and decide which orders to deliver, DashCorps workers will work a set schedule, usually between 25-40 hours per week, said Max Rettig, DoorDash's vice president of public policy. Pay starts at \$15 per hour; they will also be offered medical, dental and vision insurance.

The move is a departure for

DoorDash hopes to expand its 15-minute delivery service in more neighborhoods in Manhattan and Brooklyn in 2022. AP

DoorDash, which has fought efforts to classify its gig workforce as employees because it would significantly raise the company's costs.

DoorDash backed Proposition 22, a ballot measure approved by California voters in 2020 that lets DoorDash. Uber and others treat their workers as independent contractors.

But Rettig said Door-Dash started DashCorps not to avoid directly employing DoorDash workers, but because it wants to focus on building a new, standalone service that could eventually be marketed to a wide variety of stores.

And because of the specific challenge of speed, the company must rely on the employee model so that workers are ready to respond to orders as soon as they come

Rettig added that Door-Dash is excited to offer a regular employment option for those who don't want to do gig work.

"We want to meet people where they are," he said. "We also believe people should have more choices, not fewer choices."

DashMarts, which are warehouses filled with grocery and convenience staples as well as local specialties, will employ around 50 DashCorps couriers per location, Rettig said. DoorDash employees will continue to staff the warehouse and pack orders.

DoorDash hopes to expand 15-minute delivery in more neighborhoods in Manhattan and Brooklyn in the coming

Until now, the company was offering online grocery delivery in as little as 30 minutes from many of its DashMart locations.

But the company is finding that customer satisfaction and order rates improve when delivery times are even faster, said Fuad Hannon, DoorDash's head of new verticals. Customers were happy with 45-minute delivery times when the company launched in 2013, but they wouldn't be now, he said.

What we've seen since the early days of DoorDash is the desire for convenience only moves in one direction," Hannon said.

DoorDash is also seeing pressure from competitors like Jokr, a 15-minute grocery delivery startup that launched in New York in June and is entering Boston this month.

Fast delivery has been a safety issue in the past. Domino's Pizza stopped promising 30-minute delivery in 1993 after it was sued by a St. Louis woman who sustained severe iniuries when she was hit by a speeding delivery driver.

Rettig said couriers will have safety equipment that meets New York's requirements and the company won't make delivery promises it can't keep. Fast deliveries will only be offered in a tight radius, he said.

Hannon added that preparing an order within a DashMart will only take a few minutes, leaving more than 10 minutes for couriers to get to their destination. But he added that couriers' performance won't be based on delivery times.

"The focus will be on their safety and getting the customers what they want," Hannon said.

For now, fast delivery won't cost more than regular delivery, Hannon said, but that could change in the future. Customers who are part of DoorDash's Dash-Pass program, which charges \$9.99 per month, can get fast service without a delivery fee.

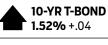
CONNECTICUT

SOCIAL BONDS

MARKET RUNDOWN

Thursday, December 9, 2021







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	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD
DOW Indus.	35,754.75	+35.32	+16.82%
DOW Trans.	16,304.80	-50.62	+30.37%
DOW Util.	932.63	-1.49	+7.86%
NYSE Comp.	16,899.92	+46.35	+16.35%
Nasdag Comp.	15,786.99	+100.07	+22.49%
S&P 500	4,701.21	+14.46	+25.16%
S&P 400	2,818.07	+16.01	+22.17%
Wilshire 5000	48,151.56	+218.17	+22.04%
Russell 2000	2,271,71	+17.92	+15.03%

Coi	mmoditi	ies	
FUELS	CLOSE	PREV.	YTD
Crude Oil (bbl)	72.36	72.05	+49.13%
Natural Gas (mm btu)	3.82	3.71	+50.26%
Unleaded Gas (gal)	2.15	2.10	+50.90%
METALS	CLOSE	PREV.	YTD
Gold (oz)	1,783.40	1,782.60	-5.79%
Silver (oz)	22.39	22.49	-14.97%
(Previous and change figures	reflect curren	t contract.)	

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	ForEx in	U.S. \$ in ForEx		CLOSE	PREV. WK.
Britain Canada China Euro Japan Mexico	1.3235	.7556 1.2656 6.3448 .8811 113.67	Prime rate 3-mo. T-Bill 6-mo. T-Bill 5-yr T-Note 10-yr T-Note 30-yr T-Bond	3.25 0.07 0.13 1.27 1.51	3.25 0.06 0.13 1.21 1.43 1.75

Global Markets

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	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG.	%YTD
Frankfurt London	15,687.09	-126.85	80%	+14.35%
London	7,337.05	-2.85	04%	+13.57%
Hong Kong	23,996.87	+13.21	+.06%	-11.88%
Nikkei	28.860.62	+405.02	+1.42%	+5.16%

YTD

Stocks of Local Interest YTD |

STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG	STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG
AMC Entertainment A (AMC	32.35	+1.31	+1425.9	MGM Resorts Intl (MGM)	42.89	+.15	+36.1
AT&T Inc (T)	23.17	+.09	-19.4	Magellan Health Inc (MGLN)	94.60	+.06	+14.2
Adv Micro Dev (AMD)	145.24	+.39	+58.4	MetLife Inc (MET)	60.62	+.09	+29.1
American Airlines Gp (AAL)	18.23	+.34	+15.6	Microsoft Corp (MSFT)	334.97	+.05	+50.6
Amphenol Corp (APH)	83.54	31		Norwegian Cruise Ln (NCLH)		+1.65	-14.4
Apple Inc (AAPL)	175.08	+3.90	+31.9	Novartis AG (NVS)	81.36	+.68	-13.8
Avangrid Inc (AGR)	50.97	04	+12.1	Nvidia Corporation (NVDA)	318.26	-6.01	+143.8
Bank of America (BAC)	44.16	55	+45.7	Otis Worldwide Corp (OTIS)	86.21	+.51	+27.6
Barnes Group (B)	46.44	+.08	-8.4	Palantir Technol (PLTR)	19.82	+.36	-15.8
	2307.20		+3.6	Paysafe Ltd (PSFE)	4.28	+.64	-68.3
Brist Myr Sqb (BMY)	57.60	+.47	-7.1	Peoples Utd Fncl (PBCT)	17.69	+.07	+36.8
CVS Health Corp (CVS)	93.10	+.17	+36.3				+39.6
Carnival Corp (CCL)	19.52	+1.02	-9.9	Pfizer Inc (PFE)	51.40	32	
Carrier Global Corp (CARR)	56.44	20	+49.6	Pioneer Power Solu (PPSI)	10.79	+2.74	+178.8
ChargePoint Holdings (CHP)		80		Pitney Bowes (PBI)	6.95	+.12	+12.8
Charter Communic (CHTR)	642.07	-8.53	-2.9	Prudential Fncl (PRU)	105.71	04	+35.4
Cigna Corp (CI)	208.31	+.34	+.1	Pub Svc Ent Gp (PEG)	63.91	20	+9.6
Cisco Syst (CSCO)	57.02	-1.06	+27.4	Raytheon Technolog (RTX)	86.50	+1.49	+21.0
Citigroup (C)	62.46	44	+1.3	Rogers Corp (ROG)	272.26	+1.04	+75.3
Comcast Corp A (CMCSA)	48.94	64	-6.6	Roku Inc (ROKU)	256.08	+39.48	-22.9
Dare Bioscience Inc (DARE)	2.13	+.01	+59.0	SS&C Technlogies (SSNC)	77.98	47	+7.2
Digital World Acq A (DWAC)	65.42 153.34	+14.35 +2.53	+557.5 -15.4	Snap Inc A (SNAP)	53.42	+3.02	+6.7
Disney (DIS)	128.91	+2.53	-15.4 +40.9	SoFi Technologies (SOFI)	16.94	+.32	-25.2
EMCOR Group Inc (EME) Energy Focus Inc (EFOI)	3.32	+1.37	-17.6	Sthwstn Energy (SWN)	5.30	+.26	+77.9
Energy Transfer L.P. (ET)	8.52	+.16	+37.9	Stanley Black & Deck (SWK)	192.22	+6.17	+7.7
Ensysce Biosciences (ENSC)		21	-79.3	Starwood Prop Trust (STWD)		93	+28.4
Ethan Allen (ETD)	25.05	+.55	+23.9	Stitch Fix Inc (SFIX)	19.00	-5.97	-67.6
Eversource Energy (ES)	87.35	+.05	+1.0	Sundial Growers Inc (SNDL)	.62	+.02	+30.2
Exela Technologies (XELA)	1.26	+.12	+1.2	Terex Corp (TEX)	46.27	+.33	+32.6
Ford Motor (F)	19.81	15	+125.4	Travelers Cos (TRV)	153.68	+.59	+9.5
FuelCell Energy (FCEL)	7.61	+.06	-31.9	Uber Technologies (UBER)	38.81	+.73	-23.9
Gen Dynamics (GD)	200.88	+1.56	+35.0	United Airlines Hlda (UAL)	45.25	+1.84	+4.6
Gen Electric (GE)	98.28	+.73	+14.0	United Rentals (URI)	356.96	+.21	+53.9
Grab Holdings Ltd A (GRAB)	8.89	+.04	+1.6				
Hartford Fn Sv (HIG)	68.51	+.26	+39.9	UnitedHealth Group (UNH)	468.86	+4.13	+33.7
Honeywell Intl (HON)	204.65	-2.50	-3.8	Virpax Pharmaceuticl (VRPX		+.41	-22.4
Horizon Tech Fin (HRZN)	16.47	07	+24.4	Virtus Invest (VRTS)	300.59	+.63	+38.5
Infosys Ltd (INFY)	23.44	+.38	+38.3	Voya Financial (VOYA)	63.33	13	+7.7
InsigniaSy (ISIG)	19.11	+8.73	+225.0	Webster Financial (WBS)	54.21	51	+28.6
Intel Corp (INTC)	51.75	82	+3.9	,	1014.90	+7.56	+1.4
Kaman (KAMN)	41.32	+.05	-27.7	World Wrestling Ent (WWE)	49.76		+3.6
Keycorp (KEY)	23.10	11	+40.8	XPO Logistics Inc (XPO)	78.71	59	+13.5
Lincoln Natl Corp (LNC)	67.93	+.43	+35.0	Xerox Holdings Corp (XRX)	21.14	+.51	-8.8
Lucid Group Inc (LCID)	44.72	+.84	+66.7	Zynga Inc (ZNGA)	6.53	+.23	-33.8



NEW ISSUE

\$800,000,000* **State of Connecticut**

General Obligation Bonds (2022 Series A) General Obligation Bonds (2022 Series B) (Social Bonds)

Preliminary Pricing Dates

Retail Order Period: Monday, December 13, 2021*

Institutional Pricing: Tuesday, December 14, 2021*

Closing Date:

Thursday, January 6, 2022*

Expected Tax Status**

Interest on the Bonds is exempt from State taxes for Connecticut residents; interest on the Bonds is federally tax-exempt

For more information on these Bonds, including the Preliminary Official Statement, please visit www.BuyCTBonds.com or contact any of the firms below

Senior Underwriter

Barclays 212-528-1115

Co-Senior Underwriters

Ramirez & Co., Inc. Stifel 800-888-4086 800-679-5446

Co-Managing Underwriters

American Veterans Group, PBC	AmeriVet Securities. Inc.	Baird
646-933-8387	646-809-6940	800-792-2473
Bancroft Capital 484-546-8000	BofA Securities 888-768-6999	Citigroup 855-644-7252
FHN Financial Capital Markets	Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC	Janney Montgomery Scott
800-934-8025	917-343-7900	800-822-2014
Mesirow Financial, Inc.	Morgan Stanley	Multi-Bank Securities, Inc.
800-558-7290	203-967-7001	888-857-6963
Piper Sandler & Co. 800-552-0614	PNC Capital Markets 800-622-7086	Raymond James 877-295-9116
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PINION

Trouble aboard leaky HMS Harris



Jonah Goldberg

Things have not gone well for Vice President Kamala Harris. Not only is she less popular than her boss, but according to one recent poll, she even broke Dick Cheney's record for most unpopular sitting vice president. But it's worse than that.

Cheney - fairly or unfairly - was unpopular because a lot of people thought he was in charge. He also shot a guy in the face. It was an accident, but still.

The White House insists there's nothing amiss in Harris-land, even as much of her senior staff is jumping ship. And that ship is leaking. Festivus arrived early on HMS Harris with disgruntled and loyal staffers alike airing grievances on a daily basis.

The complaints cover the waterfront: Harris is no fun to work for. She doesn't do her homework and blames the staff when she's unprepared. "With Kamala," one former staffer told The Washington Post, "you have to put up with a constant amount of soul-destroying criticism and also her own lack of confidence. So you're constantly sort of propping up a bully and it's not really clear why."

Her defenders blame everyone but her. For starters, Biden hasn't got her back. They claim, predictably, that right-wing media is racist and sexist. But they also say the mainstream media is "chasing incessantly negative stories and playing into undeniable structural issues of race and gender," in the words of Politico.

Not even the White House is immune. "It's hard to miss the specific energy that the White House brings to defend a white man," says a former Harris staffer, referencing recent support for Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg's decision to take time off when his twins were born. (How far we've come when defending a gay Cabinet official's paternity leave is proof of structural racism.)

Both Biden's and Harris' teams insist her staff's exodus is a nonstory. People are tired and want to spend more time with their families. That's always plausible for specific people. But if Harris' star were rising and she were the presumptive Democratic president in waiting, some folks would stick around.

Harris was a bad pick from the start. Her failed presidential campaign seemed to be



Kamala Harris, the first Black female vice president, was a bad pick from the start, columnist Jonah Goldberg writes. YURI GRIPAS/ABACA PRESS

based on the assumption that Twitter and TikTok likes would win delegates in the Democratic primary. Whatever personal charm she has — or skills she had as a prosecutor or a senator — hasn't translated for a national audience.

But she was the inevitable pick once Biden decided he needed to select a Black woman as his running mate. Her keenest supporters — a very thin slice of Very Online Democratic activists — are trying to cast her travails through the prisms of racism and sexism. Such defenses strike me as evidence they don't know how to do any other kind of politics — only the kind

where every setback looks racist and sexist. That mindset is the driver of Harris'

problems. Her supporters seem to believe that the first Black female vice president is such a big deal, that everyone - staffers, journalists, the president himself - should work as if she is just too big to fail. Hence all the anger at Biden for not creating more opportunities for her to shine.

"It's a conundrum unique to her," two CNN reporters said. "People are expecting their historic vice president to make history every day when in fact she's trying to carry the duties of a secondary role."

There's some truth to that. Putting her in charge of the "root causes" of the border crisis was a recipe for failure. But that begs the question: Since when is it the job of the president to prioritize the political success

of the vice president?

For instance, according to the Post, her supporters say Biden's refusal to push for "wholesale changes to the Senate filibuster" limits her ability to "solve problems" such as immigration and voting rights, presumably because the VP casts the deciding vote in a tied Senate.

Huh. Of all the arguments good and bad for abolishing the filibuster, it never occurred to me that making Harris look good was one of them. But such ideas make sense when you think your job is to be symbolic and historic.

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Human ingenuity will help prevent climate catastrophe

By Gary Schilling Bloomberg Opinion

Most of the dire forecasts of the effects of rising carbon emissions and global warming assume no significant human response. Rising sea levels will flood the coastal cities to which people have increasingly moved. Crops will wither due to too much summer heat. Perhaps the dinosaurs died out because they couldn't adapt to climate change, but with ingenuity and substitutions, humans can and will.

Much of Holland was under water until the Dutch, starting in the 15th century, built dikes to hold back the North Sea. In the 20th century, they constructed more dikes, dams and causeways and pumped out the huge shallow bay, the Zuiderzee (southern sea in Dutch), to use it for agriculture and housing, renaming it IJsselmeer (IJssel Lake) after the river that drains into it.

As the climate warms, the global production of crops such as corn are being planted farther north to take advantage of longer sunlight and less extreme weather. Levees, flood walls and drainage systems now protect New Orleans to the point that Hurricane Ida created much less damage than Katrina in 2005.

Without offsetting measures, projected increases in sea levels between now and 2100 would flood vast areas of the world's coastlines, creating \$55 trillion in total damage (in 2005 dollars), or 5% of global gross domestic product, a study by the National Academy of Sciences projects.

But with higher dikes, only 15,000 people would be flooded, estimates Bjorn Lomborg, president of the Copenhagen Consensus, compared with 3.4 million in 2000. He also says that the total cost of the damage, investments in new dikes and maintenance of existing dikes would fall six-fold between now and 2100 to 0.008% of global GDP. These measures would slash the number of people affected by flooding from 187 million to 15,000, Lomborg estimates.

In contrast, lowering global temperatures by 2 degrees Celsius by the end of the century, the standard goal, would only cut the number of flood victims to 85 million a year.

In the long run, human ingenuity always overcomes major economic prob-

I remember when serious economists believed that telecommunication development was limited by the finite supply of copper to make transmission wires. Then fiber optics were developed from silicone, the second most relevant substance on the earth's surface next to oxygen. Computers

were originally run by vacuum tubes that limited their size. The odds of any one tube burning out were low, but became substantial when thousands of them relied on each other. So big computers would function for only a few minutes. These limitations largely disappeared as more reliable semiconductors came into existence.

Then there was the Hubbert's Peak forecast of crude oil production.

M. King Hubbert, a geophysicist who joined Shell Oil in 1947, believed that oil field production followed a classic bell curve, or normal distribution, and that oil gets increasingly expensive to extract and is of lower quality after a field's production peaks. Based on his theory, he predicted that production in the lower 48 U.S. states would peak in the early 1970s. So as demand for petroleum grew, shortages and sky-high prices might impede economic growth. Few believed him at the time of his predictions. U.S. oil output was expanding rapidly after World War II and, indeed, American production not only supplied domestic needs but also much of the rest of the world through

Still, his forecast proved accurate. Hubbert's followers subsequently extended his concepts globally and believed that worldwide production would top out in 2010, or in 2012 at the latest. Now, however, the issue is peak demand, not peak supply

Hubbert's Peak fans didn't expect natural gas, liquefied natural gas, the oil sands in Canada, heavy oil in Venezuela and elsewhere, oil shale, coal, hydroelectric power, nuclear energy, wind, geothermic, solar, tidal, ethanol and biomass energy, fuel cells and so forth to substitute significantly for petroleum.

Petroleum demand growth is slowing due to the ongoing shift from goods to services consumption, conservation, the substitution of natural gas for fossil fuels in electricity production and renewable energy, to say nothing of longer-term substitution of electric vehicles for gasoline- and diesel engine-powered autos and trucks. The International Energy Agency expects oil demand to eventually fall in all three of its scenarios that range from the status quo to zero net carbon emissions by 2050.

Clean-burning whale oil was the preferred fuel for lighting until the mid-1800s, so much so that the famous whaling fleets in Massachusetts were running out of whales in the nearby Atlantic Ocean. That forced the ships to take hazardous voyages around the southern tip of South America to the Pacific Ocean.



A crew remove barriers Aug. 27 in New Orleans to allow flood gates to be closed in anticipation of tropical storm threat. MAX BECHERER/THE TIMES-PICAYUNE/THE NEW ORLEANS ADVOCATE

There were fears that the world would exhaust the whale population and the lights would go out. Then in 1859, Edwin Drake, a retired railroad man, drilled the first successful oil well in Titusville, Pennsylvania. Kerosene refined from crude oil rapidly became the standard fuel for lighting, and the world's remaining whales were spared.

Early in the Industrial Revolution, many feared it couldn't continue. Charcoal was used to convert iron ore into steel, and England was running out of the oak trees needed to make charcoal. But an iron monger in Shropshire discovered that coke, a substitute for charcoal, could be made from coal, and the Industrial Revolution was saved.

Current examples of adaptations include retailers, beset by supply chain woes, who are pushing Christmas shoppers to accept alternatives for items that are out of stock or in short supply. Global supply chain problems have also encouraged Chevron Corp. to substitute 3D printed parts for scarce items at its

Gorgon gas-export project in Australia. With shortages of semiconductor chips, manufacturers are redesigning products to require fewer chips and relying on lower-tech models of their products. Digital features like screens and wireless connectivity in appliances are being discontinued temporarily due to chip shortages.

Malaysia, a country of 33 million people, has long relied on several million low-paid foreigners to work in factories, construction and rubber harvesting. It closed its borders to migrant workers early in the pandemic, making it difficult for the nation's semiconductor industry, among others, to keep up with demand. The national chamber of commerce believes the country is short 500,000 workers due to departing migrants, but

rather than let them return, the government is pushing "Malaysianization" that offers extra pay to locals who take jobs previously held by foreigners. Malaysia's leaders believe readily available and cheap foreign labor discouraged businesses from investing in automation.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia has encouraged companies to hire locals and introduced taxes on companies that hire foreigners. What a change for a country that previously relied on foreign workers while Saudis enjoyed high-paid and often no-show jobs. In the U.K., Prime Minister Boris Johnson says the nation is reducing immigration to raise local wages and productivity, even as labor shortages persist there.

Renewed interest in nuclear power is unfolding as the enormous carbon footprints of wind, solar and the necessary batteries when the wind doesn't blow and the sun doesn't shine become more apparent. A nuclear engineering professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Jacopo Buongiorno, calculates that over the life cycle of power plants, including construction, operation, decommissioning and disposal of waste, the greenhouse gas emissions of nuclear power are 1/700th those of coal, 1/400th of gas and a quarter of solar. Private capital is interested in molten-metal reactors, liquid-metal reactors and advanced small modular reactors that are relatively cheap and quick to build.

Human brains and substitutions have always beat major economic problems and shortages, and probably always will. As an investor, sidestep the negative effects of climate change and concentrate on the new opportunities that are opening

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PUBLIC NOTICES

WEST HARTFORD PLAN AND ZONING COMMISSION NOTICE OF DECISION

The Town of West Hartford Plan and Zoning Commission also acting as the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency, at its Regular Virtual Meeting on Monday, December 6, 2021 took the following action:

116 Westmont – Application (IWW #1159) of Bret Bowin, Urform, LLC, on behalf of Nancy Prather & Michael Shaughness, (R.O.), requesting approval of an Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Permit to conduct certain regulated activities which may have an adverse impact on a wetlands regulated area. The applicant is proposing a new deck and addition project with associated site improvements. The proposed work is within the 150 ft. upland review area and no direct wetlands impacts are proposed. (Submitted for IrWWA receipt on December 6, 2021, Presented for determination of significance.)

SPECIAL USE PERMITS APPROVED WITH

637 New Park Avenue – Gastro Fa Anolication (SUP#1341-LB-21) of Concepting TPZ review Norden (R.O.), requesting TPZ review and look-back of compliance with the conditions of SUP #1341 and modifications to the original approval. Originally approved September 4, 2019 for a food truck park which included space for up to four food trucks; indoor dining, bar and games areas; outdoor dining and games patio; and associated site parking. (Submitted for TPZ receipt on November 3, 2021. Required public hearing scheduled for December 6, 2021.)

589-591 New Park Avenue – Application (SUP#1369) of Bret Bowin on behalf of Sarjac Partners, LLC, (R.O.), requesting approval of a Special Use Permit to have a new place of worship use in the rear building on site. (Submitted for TPZ receipt on November 3, 2021. Required public hearing scheduled for December 6, 2021.)

The final approved plans related to the above applications are available for public review by sending an email request to comment.tpz@ westhartfordct.gov or calling 860.561.7555 to schedule an appointment.

The effective date of these actions is Friday, December 24, 2021.

Kevin Ahern, Chairman TPZ/IWWA Todd Dumais, TPZ/IWW Administrative Officer

Dated this the 7th day of December, 2021. Publish (1) one time on Thursday, December 9, 2021 12/9/21 7102063

Connecticut

LEGAL NOTICE PLANNING & ZONING CO ING & ZONING COMMISSION LEBANON, CT 06249

LEBANON, CT 06249

Lebanon Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing for the application listed below, on Monday, December 13, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. during the following teleconference meeting: Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86762078724 Meeting ID: 867 6207 8724 Phone: (646) 558 8656 PZ-21-34: Jason Yerke, Distinctive Farms LLC (applicant), Lori K. Budney (owner), 92 Church Road, Assessor Map 266, Lot 32. Request Home Occupation Permit for a landscape and tree service business per Zoning Sec. 7.5b. Interested persons may be heard, and written communications may be heard, and written communications may be received prior to the hearing by email at townplanner@lebanont.gov or telephone 860-642-2006. Application and plans on file in Land Use Office. Dated at Lebanon, CT this 29th day of November, 2021. Holli E. Smith, Land Use Secretary 12/2, 12/9/2021 7097204

The State of Connecticut Judicial Branch. ing proposals from organizations that will recruit qualified employers, track outcomes, and serve as a fiduciary to pay stipends to employers that hire justice-involved youth.

Proposals must be received before **2:30 p.m.** on **Monday, January 24, 2022**. Late proposals will NOT be accepted.

RESPONDENTS CURRENTLY REGISTERED UNDER THE STATE'S SMALL BUSINESS SET-ASIDE PROGRAM ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.

roposal package may be obtained from the udicial Branch Purchasing Services website www.jud.ct.gov/external/news/busopp/

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action 12/9/21 7103021



Request For Quotation #02-2108

The State of Connecticut Judicial Branch invites qualified contractors to submit quotations to provide repairs to existing Wireless Duress Alarm Systems (on an as-needed basis) at various Judicial Branch locations statewide. Replacement of an existing system may also be required.

Quotations must be received by 11:30 A.M. on THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2022. Late bids will not be accepted.

VENDORS CURRENTLY REGISTERED UNDER THE STATE'S SMALL BUSINESS SET-ASIDE PROGRAM ARE ENCOURAGED TO BID.

Bid package may be obtained from the Judicial Branch Purchasing Services web site below. www.jud.ct.gov/external/news/busopp/ An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action

Employer 12/9/2021 7102894

Tuesday December 14, 2021 5:30 P.M.

Location: In response to concerns regard ing the spread of coronavirus disease (COVID-19), and in the interest of the safety and well-being of participants, this meeting will be held remotely by conference call.

Public Dial-In Information: Number: 681-999-0297 PIN: 303243#

Pursuant to Section 15-31a(n) of the General Statutes of Connecticut, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the general public that the BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CONNECTICUT PORT AUTHORITY will hold a PUBLIC HEARING on DECEMBER 14, 2021, commencing at 5:30 P.M., to be held remotely via teleconference accessible using the dial-in information above, for the purpose of evaluating the adequacy of the State's maritime policies, facilities and support for maritime commerce 12/7 - 12/14/2021 7097064

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STORAGE TREASURES AUCTION

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated: 163 South Road Enfield, CT. 06082 Auction Date and Time: 12/22/2021 at 1:30pm F21 - Winter Star Marie Riach - Household Items
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.



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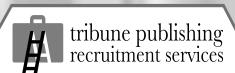
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Newington Sanja P. Trifone Old Lyme Nancy M. Johnson Old Saybrook John W. Andrews

Other Town in CT Edith J. Bogaert Dorothy A. Giglio Patricia A. lanniello Pauline L. Putriment Cheryl Wakely

Vernon Harvey A. Desruisseaux West Hartford Regina M. Dipietro

Rosemary C. Larkum Gwendolyn W. Spencer Wethersfield Jennifer A. O'Neill

Catherine E. Serdechny Windsor Deen G. Byerly Jennifer A. O'Neill Marion Pinckney, Jr.

OUT OF STATE Deon Foster Staten Island, NY Rosemary C. Larkum Osprey, FL Cheryl Wakely Woodstock

* Denotes name listing only. Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

OBITUARIES

Albert, David G



David G. Albert, (aka "Smiley") 65 of Berlin, CT formally a long-time resident of New Britain, CT passed away sud-denly Saturday, November 27, 2021 at Lawrence Memorial Hospital. David was born in Fort Kent, ME on April 30, 1956 and was the son of Rheal and the late Anne Marie (Bouchard) Albert. He retired from Yale University's Lewis

Library after thirty years of service. David enjoyed a good time, spending time with family and friends, loved the beach and anywhere near water and good food. David is survived by his father, Rheal Albert of Southington, CT, his brother Danny Albert and his wife Violet of Colchester, CT, his two sisters Sharon Pelletier of Southington, CT and Susan Albert of New Britain, CT his niece Daniela Albert of Colchester, CT. Besides his mother, David was predeceased by his brother-in-law Michael Pelletier. David will be terribly missed by his family and many friends, but never forgotten.

A Celebration of David's life will be held Friday, December 10, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. with the procession departing at 9:30 a.m. from the Paul A. Shaker Funeral Home, 764 Farmington Ave., New Britain, CT followed by a Liturgy of Christian burial at 10 a.m. at St. Katharine Drexel Parish, 1010 Slater Rd., New Britain, CT. Burial will be private. At the request of the family, masks will be required. To extend condolences to the Albert family or to share a memory of David, please visit SHAKERFUNERALHOME.COM

Funeral Home

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Byerly, Deen G.



Deen G. Byerly, 80, of Windsor, Connecticut passed away un-expectedly on December 5, 2021.

He was born on July 24, 1941 in Greenbush Township, Illinois to Joseph O. Byerly and Nellie Louise (Lincoln). He was the oldest of three brothers [Donny (deceased)

and Wendel (wife Connie) of Gilson, Illinois].

Deen grew up in Avon, Illinois

a rural farming community ("pop. 1,000") approximately 200 miles southwest of Chicago. He graduated from Avon High School in 1960 and was a member of the football, basketball and track teams. After high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served four years reaching the rank of E-5. During his service he was an F-4 Phantom jet plane mechanic on two aircraft carriers, the USS Forrestal and the USS Saratoga. He told great stories of his adventures on "Med" cruises. Deen met his beloved wife Rose while stationed in Virginia Beach, where Rose (from Queens, NYC) was vacationing with a friend. They were married in July 1967 in New York City.

After leaving the Navy, he was employed by Pratt & Whitney in East Hartford, CT as a machinist, working in teams supporting Apollo space missions and government sponsored fuel cell research. He then joined Combustion Engineering (ABB/Westinghouse), in Windsor where he worked for duration of his career, first in the nuclear fuel fabrication facility and then as a source inspector of manufactured power plant

components until his retirement in 2011. He is survived by his adored wife of 54 years, Rose, his daughter Lynn (Conners), her husband Steve, their children Megan, Caitlin and Ryan, his son Kurt and wife Karen, their children Erin and Brooke. He is also survived by beloved cousins, nieces and nephews, other family, and innumerable friends all of whom loved him

and will miss him. He cherished spending time with family, helping friends and neighbors (a legendary Mr. Fixit) and his long walks in the woods. You could also regularly find him watching UConn sports (especially soccer and basketball) or

listening to Boston Red Sox games on his AM radio.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 3:00 pm, on December 19, 2021 at The Lodge Community Chapel, 130 Deerfield Road, Windsor, CT. The family will be greeting friends and relatives at 2:00pm.

In lieu of flowers, if interested, the family asks that donations be made in Deen's name to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK 73123, or the American Heart Association, P.O. Box 840692, Dallas, TX, 75284-0692 or the Lexington (MA) Historic Society, P.O. Box 514, Lexington, MA 02420. Carmon Funeral Home has care of arrangements. To leave on-line condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



www.carmonfuneralhome.com Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

OBITUARIES



afternoon November 30, 2021, John W. Andrews, "Captain Jack," the son of the late John H. Andrews and Mildred Davis Andrews of Clinton, CT, passed away peacefully at the age of 81 with his daughter Kim by his side. A lifelong fisherman in Long Island Sound, he was the co owner of J&J Lobster at the Foot of

Commerce Street, known today as Lobster Landing. It is a popular tourist destination because of the delicious lobster rolls. If you ate there you may have eaten a lobster caught by Jack in one of the lobster pots he and his dad made themselves. Jack graduated from The Morgan School in 1958. He was in the National Guard for 6 years. He was the captain of the local softball team for 20 years. What an arm he had to fast pitch that ball! Jack loved to play, and he took his games seriously. With his grin, he would disarm unsuspecting newcomers for a game of billiards. If you were lucky you would get a chance to shoot before he ran the table. When you saw his bank shots and backspins, you knew you had been hoodwinked. He also enjoyed golf, horseshoes, and bowling. For 55 years, Jack loved being a member of Elks 1784. He gave comfort to survivors as a chaplain for the Old Saybrook VFW. He deviced oil using his strongth. vivors as a chaplain for the Old Saybrook VFW. He delivered oil, using his strength, so people could have heat. His life was a mixture of using his strong arms to work hard and play harder! Everyone who knew him said he was the life of the party. He is predeceased by his brother Tommy Andrews, his sister Julia Gagnon, his son Scott Andrews, and his grandson Jason Casula. He is survived by his son John F. Andrews of San Francisco, his daughters Kimberly Andrews of Clinton and Debbie (Charles) Recker of Queens, 9 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren, and his loving partner and faithful caregiver Rita LaVertue. Jack played golf in charity events to raise funds for the Fisher House Foundation, a military charity. In lieu of flowers donations can be made tary charity. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to www.fisherhouse.org.

A celebration of Jack's life will be held at the Westbrook Elks Lodge, 142 Seaside Ave. Westbrook, CT 06498 on Friday, December 17th from 1-4 PM.

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Desruisseaux, Harvey A



If you had one weekend left in this life, how would you spend it?

For our husband, dad, & grandfather it would include his faith, family, and friends. He lived his final weekend by joining family for a birthday celebration on Friday, attending church on Sunday, and joining friends to cheer on his beloved UConn Huskies Women's Basketball team.

Hours later, he left this earth surrounded by his wife Diane Lacount Desruisseaux, and daughters & sons-in-law Laura & Paul Harger, Cheryl & Raymond Galli, and Amy & Carl Gorski. He quietly let go while listening to his favorite hymns and songs including Warren Zevon's "Keep Me in Your Heart for a While" and John Denver's "Poems & Prayers & Promises". No pain. No regrets. Only love. And that trademark Harvey smile.

Harvey and Diane met at the University of Connecticut in the late 1950s. They were members of the UConn Marching Band and together with two other friends, started the UConn Pep Band. They married on September 7, 1963, and shared 21,261 days living their vows - for better, for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health. It's the "until death do us part" that Diane now struggles with.

Hebron, Connecticut became their home and their roots there were deep and lasting. The Gilead Congregational Church was Dad's church, but his faith and fellowship extended far beyond the building. The Garden of Remembrance on the church grounds was Dad's creation and where he will live on in eternity. Sadly, this dispels his long-term belief that an undertaker would be the last one to ever let him down. He was a charter member of the Hebron Volunteer Fire Department (Company 3). He and his Ford Maverick with its blue light stood ready to respond whenever his neighbors were in need. His willingness to help and his volunteerism were well-known and loved characteristics. If he could help by coordinating a golf tournament, well then, even better.

To his daughters, he was a provider of unconditional love, support, laughter, and the junk food that mom wouldn't let us have. He was always up for a trip to Shady Glen for a male sundae (with nuts). We believe that it is written in history somewhere that he created bad "dad jokes". And how do you know when it's a bad "dad joke"? Well, that should be apparent. He was the umpire at our softball games, instilled in us that bills must always be going in the same direction (it's a banker thing), and taught us to yell "decline the penalty" at the many New England/Hartford Whalers hockeý games we attended. It's hard to imagine that we'll never again hear him call us by the nicknames he had for us...YanYa, Chepa, and Poopers. Amy wants to make it clear that her nickname comes from her love of Winnie the Pooh.

Perhaps the Scarecrow in our Wizard of Oz family story are his grandchildren. Missing their Papa most of all will be Kayla (with Devin & Beckett) Marston, Jonathan Galli, Andrew and Ashley Harger, and Jenny and Joey Gorski. Papa was so excited to welcome Baby Boy Marston, his great-grandson, due in spring 2022. Dance recitals, concerts, basketball games, plays...Papa never missed one. He was immensely proud of his grandchildren and they each felt the love, encouragement, and belief he had in them. Whouda man, Papa? You are. Youda man.

Uncle Harvey also leaves behind his brother & sisterin-law, Walter and Monita Desruisseaux, Sr (from the coast of Maine!), brother-in-law & his wife, Don and Barbara Lacount and his nieces and nephews Suzanne, Corinne, Steven, Walt Jr, and Denise. We're a small family but what we lack in quantity, we more than make up for in quality.

Harvey Andrew Desruisseaux

November 30, 1940-December 6, 2021. A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, December 11 at 10:00am at the Gilead Congregational Church, 672 Gilead Street, Hebron CT. All are welcome to join us at a reception in the Fellowship Hall following the service where we will tell bad jokes, recall our best memories and, no doubt, share a few tears. To celebrate Dad's love for the UConn Huskies, friends are invited to wear UConn apparel or blue & white to the service.

In memory of Harvey, be the reason someone smiles today. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Gilead Congregational Church for the Garden of Remembrance (address above), the Hockanum Valley Community Council, at www.hvcchelps.org/donate or the Cornerstone Foundation at www.cornerstonecares.org/donate

We recently asked Dad what he would want included in his obituary. His response? "Well, that's the last thing I'll need"

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Kweder, William G



William George Kweder a longtime Enfield and Bill Kweder, resident of Enfield and more recently Suffield, Connecticut, passed from this life on December 5 at Hartford Hospital. Following a two-week hospitalization for Covid-19, he was undergoing rehab when a major stroke took his life just shy of 91 years old.

Bill was known and loved by many in Enfield, where he lived with his

family on Steele Road from 1963 - 2019.

As the first town planner of the growing suburb, Bill's career later led him to West Hartford, and as a consultant and advisor to many smaller towns in the state, including Suffield. Involved in many community activities, he was a founding member of St. Philip Catholic Church in East Windsor, serving the parish council for many years, tirelessly helping to keep parish finances in sound order. He was active in the Knights of Columbus, Broad Brook Council, including as Grand Knight for several years (he was an excellent Bingo caller). Bill's deep faith in God was quiet, but he lived it with his honesty, integrity and warmth. His big smile and community spirit were widely known and contagious. In later years he turned his passion for great food into serving the under at the Enfield Food Shelf, where he stocked shelves, served on the Board of Directors as well as clients and organized major fund raisers for the charity. It was all joy to him. He solicited other volunteers with his way of getting them to show up to join the cause when they least expected it. "He was such a wonderful man, his volunteer work was truly motivating for me," said one of Bill's friends and former colleagues. "I am still working at my own local food pantry based on his example." When he could no longer work at the food shelf, he turned his energy to the resident council at Suffield by the River.

Bill was born December 28, 1930, in Worcester, Massachusetts, to Ann (Colonies) and William J. Kweder. The second of their two children, Bill was predeceased by his sister Elizabeth (Billie June) Pope, 7 years older. The family moved to Shrewsbury when Bill was young, making a home in a converted chicken coop while building a house on lake Quinsigamond. From his Scottish mother he learned to pinch pennies. He played football in high school, but it was crew at which he excelled: his 4-man team qualified for the 1952 Olympic trials, but duty to country prohibited competing. Bill had joined the Marine Corps at 18, serving in Argentia, Newfoundland. While his 3 mates would be allowed leave from their services to compete, the Marine Corps viewed things differently. Life was good, though, as he later met and married the love of his life, Antoinette (Toni) Morano in 1955, for whom he would be sole caregiver through a prolonged battle with dementia before her death in 2018. With Toni by with dementia before her death in 2018. With Toni by his side, Bill had many joys, he found himself a graduate of the University of Massachusetts (BA) and Michigan State University (MA), after which they made Enfield their home. Bill leaves behind their 3 loving daughters, their husbands and 10 grandchildren: Sandra Kweder, MD (Philip Coyne, MD) of Amsterdam, Netherlands and their children LCDR Mary Coyne, USN-R (Adam Garfrerick), Virginia Coyne and Brendan Coyne; Ann (Steven Ziter) of Ellington, CT and their children Jacob Ziter (Dana Amendola), Samuel Ziter and Rachel Ziter and; Paula Kweder (Paul Coutinho) of Millis, MA, and her children Grace Lessard and Anne Lessard. They, scattered from Ellington to Fairfield, Saratoga Springs, NY, to Louisville, Kentucky and Cape Cod to Somaliland, will miss him dearly, especially his zest for life, love of a great meal, a crisp glass of white wine and family gatherings. Bill and his bright light will live on forever in our hearts. The family will welcome relatives and in our hearts. The family will welcome relatives and friends from 3 PM to 6 PM on Friday, December 10 at the Browne Memorial Chapels, 43 Shaker Road in Enfield, CT and a Mass of Christian Burial celebrating his life at St. Marianne Cope Parish, St. Philip Church at 150 South Main Street, East Windsor, CT to be held on Sat. Dec. 11, 2021 at 10:00am, meeting at the church. Interment with military honors will follow in St. Catherine Cemetery, Broad Brook, CT. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Enfield Food Shelf, P.O. Box 699 Enfield, CT 06083, or www.enfieldfoodshelf.org, are appreciated. To leave an online condolence message visit: www.brownememorialchapels.com.

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Wakely, Cheryl (Ricard)



Cheryl Ricard Wakely, 71, of Woodstock passed away peacefully at her home surrounded by family on Monday, December 6th 2021. Born in Killingly, CT on September 23rd 1950, the daughter of Shirley Babbitt Ricard and Armand Ricard, Mrs. Wakely is survived by her two beloved sons, Jonathan, and wife Jennifer of Washington,

D.C., Stephen, and fiancée Melissa of Barrington, R.I. and grandchildren Samuel and Cecilia Wakely of Washington, D.C.

Mrs. Wakely was a 1968 graduate of Killingly High School, where she was a school piano accompanist, and a 1972 graduate of the University of Connecticut School of Business. She changed careers in 1996 when she received a Master's degree from Simmons College in Library Management. She was a member of Beta Phi

Mu, the International Library Honor Society.
In an early career, Mrs. Wakely was the purchasing agent for Loos and Company in Pomfret. She later became interim director of the Stafford Public Library and director of three local school libraries: The Hyde School, Marianapolis Prep School, and Killingly High School. She was the owner of Woodstock Hill Antiques for forty years, helping many people furnish their homes with 18th- and early 19th- century antiques.

Mrs. Wakely volunteered for many institu-tions and agencies, including: Chair of the Woodstock Wetlands Commission, serving on that agency for ten years, historian and librarian of the First Congregational Church of Woodstock, during the time of the church's 300th anniversary; president of the Woodstock Historical Society for eight years and on the Board of Directors for fifteen years; a member of the Woodstock Tercentenary Committee, on which she served as publications chair; and a long-time member of the Concert Choir of Northeastern Connecticut.

She was the author of From the Roxbury Fells to the Eastward Vale: A Journey Through Woodstock, 1686-2011; co-editor with Charlene Perkins Cutler of Heritage and Horizons: Woodstock Remembers 300 Years; and editor of the 300th anniversary edition of the Woodstock Parish Observer. She wrote many articles about Woodstock history.

Mrs. Wakely loved leading Walking Weekend history tours, singing with choirs in the Quiet Corner, sailing on Alexander's Lake, and playing golf at many local golf courses.

Donations may be made in memory of Mrs. Wakely to a memorial fund for the Killingly High School Library Media Center or to the First Congregational

Church of Woodstock. Relatives and friends are invited to a funeral service at 2:00 pm on Saturday, December 18, 2021 in the First Congregational Church of Woodstock, 543 Route 169, Woodstock, CT. For memorial guestbook visit www. GilmanAndValade.com.

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OBITUARIES

Bogaert, Edith Julia



Edith Bogaert (Mozealous) of Essex, CT passed away December 5, . 2021 surrounded by her fam-Born April 6, 1931 to George and Edith Mozealous, she graduated from East Haven High School and soon after started her family with her husband of 48 years, John Bogaert.

Whether she was baking, sewing, knitting, or taking her children and later her grandchildren for day trips, she was most content caring for family and friends, always with a song in her heart. She had an eye for elegant design that she shared while working at Outdoor Traders and later Ceramica; a gift she passed on to both of her daughters. Edith shared her amazing emotional wisdom with all that were in need, but was never one to interfere. She approached each day "looking up", appreciating all that was good and gracefully accepted the tougher times. Her sense of humor never faltered. She adored her family and appreciated her friends, and although shy, she was always quick with a warm hug and smile.

'Grammy' or 'Mimi' as she was affectionately called, cherished her grandchildren; Will Bogaert (Laura), Julia Bogaert, Christopher Ritter, Katherine Keith (Duncan), Sarah Makowicki, and Tyler Makowicki.

Edith was predeceased by her parents, her beloved brother and sister-in-law Frank and Bernice Mozealous, and her sisters Phyllis Adams and Margaret Faulkner.

She is survived by her children, John Bogaert and his wife Marla of Essex, CT, Georgann Ritter and her husband Marc of Niantic, CT, and Kathleen Simmons and her husband Gary of Matlacha, FL.

A private service in honor of Edith will be held in the spring. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name to The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries, PO. Box 804, Essex, CT 06426 To share a memory of Edith or send a condolence to her family please visit www.rwwfh.com Arrangements are in the care of the Robinson, Wright & Weymer Funeral Home in Centerbrook.

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Ianniello, Patricia Ann



Patricia (Lenois) Ianniello, 60, of Plantsville, beloved wife of Robert lanniello, passed away in the comfort of her home, surrounded by her family on Tuesday, December 7, 2021.

Patricia was born in Waterbury on April 5, 1961 and was the daughter of the late Robert and Beatrice (Hines) Lenois. Patricia graduated from Central Connecticut State University where she achieved her Master in Education and Reading Concentration. She also achieved her 6th and 7th year Masters Extensions. She was a teacher for the Highland Masters Extensions. She was a teacher for the Highland Elementary School in Cheshire from 1986-2020 where she mentored the children and prepared them for their later years. On September 22, 1984, she married the love of her life, Robert, at St. Aloysius Church where she taught catechism. Patty truly loved educating the youth of our country. In her leisure time, she loved reading, baking, shopping, and cheering on her favorite MLS team, the New England Revolution. Patty was the sternal optimist, always selfless in every way. She was eternal optimist, always selfless in every way. She was a true people person and loved her family and her career as an educator. Besides her husband, Patty is survived by her daughter Leanne Elizabeth Ianniello and her husband Kyle Paul Bosshardt of Boston, MA. She is also survived by her brothers, James Lenois of East Hartford, and also by John Lenois. Patty also leaves behind her faithful German Shepard, Rush. She was predeceased by her brother Robert Lenois Jr. Friends and family are invited to pay their respects on Friday, December 10, 2021 from 5-8 pm at the Della Vecchia Funeral Home, 211 N. Main St. Southington, CT 06489. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Saturday, December 11, 2021 at 9:15 am from the funeral home and at 10:00 am in St. Aloysius Church, 254 Burritt St, Plantsville, CT 06479. Burial will follow in South End Cemetery in Plantsville. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Patty's name may be made to The American Cancer Society, 30 Spreen St. Framingham, MA 01701. For directions or to leave an online message of sympathy, please visit www.dellavechiasouthington.

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O'Neill, Jennifer A. (Nurmi)



Jennifer A. O'Neill, 39, of Wethersfield, passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family on Monday, December 6, 2021, after a courageous battle with metastatic breast cancer. She was the beloved wife of John D. O'Neill for 10 years. Born in Hartford, daughter of Stephen and Cheryl (Michaud) Nurmi of Windsor, she was raised in

Windsor before settling in Wethersfield 12 years ago. Jen graduated from St. Joseph's University prior to earning her Master's degree from Arizona State University. She began her career as a paraprofessional and took advancing positions before ultimately earning her title and license as a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst. She spent her career helping children with autism. Jen enjoyed spending time with family and friends, shopping, visiting vineyards and lounging on the beach. She also enjoyed traveling, decorating for holidays, and listening to country music. Jen lit up every room she walked into and was loved by everyone. Along with her husband and parents, she leaves her adored children, Gabriella and Jacob O'Neill, her sisters Jillian Nurmi-McFarland and her children, Kailie, Owen and Noah of Windsor, and Stephenie Nurmi of Chicago, IL. She also leaves her paternal grandmother, Anne Nurmi of Enfield, her maternal grandmother, Mary Michaud of Bangor, ME, her husband's parents, Brian and Rosalie O'Neill of Rocky Hill, Rich and Nancy Beaudoin of Columbia, and Scott and Daria Snyder of Highlands Ranch, CO, her brother-in-law, Daniel O'Neill and his daughter Ariel O'Neill of Rocky Hill, her sisterin-law, Stefanie O'Neill of Ivoryton, and countless friends, aunts, uncles, and cousins. The family requests guests to wear masks at her services. Relatives and friends are invited to call on Sunday, December, 12th, from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Duksa Family Funeral Homes at Newington Memorial, 20 Bonair Ave., Newington. Jen's funeral service will be held on Monday, December 13th at 11:00 a.m. at Newington Memorial. She will be laid to rest following the service in Cedar Hill Cemetery, Hartford. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to metastatic breast cancer research at breastfriendsfund.org. To share a memory with her family, please visit us at www.duksa.net.



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DiPietro, Regina M.



Regina M. DiPietro, 74, of Farmington, passed away on December 5, 2021 peacefully with her children at her side. She was the wife of the late Vincent DiPietro and daughter to the late Reginald S. and Therla Pitman Mosher. She leaves behind her children Karen Pirro (Robert) of West Hartford and Mark Pirro of Colchester; grandchildren

Stephen Kapros, Sean Kapros (Allison), Jameson Pirro, Emmanuel Kapros and Chelsea Pirro; and great grandchildren Sarah and Daniel Kapros. She is survived by her siblings, Reginald H. Mosher of Naples, FL. Darla Rattell (Edward) of Springfield, MA and Claudia Dugre (David) of Chicopee, MA; and several nieces, nephews, and good friends. She was predeceased by her brother, Bradford Mosher.

Born in North Conway, NH; she grew up in Enfield and then attended Chamberlayne College in Boston. Regina was a long-time resident of Farmington, moving there in 1979 to raise her children. While being a stay home mom and the neighborhood baker; she joined Junior Women's Club and later became active in the Democratic Town Committee.

She volunteered for town campaigns as treasurer and made close friends in the process including her future brother-in-law Bob DiPietro and Mary Grace Reed. Regina also managed her own business out of the home for tailoring, draperies and furniture reupholstering. After her children left the nest, she went to work as a preschool teacher and then daycare director, getting a degree at TCC. She was part of bringing NAEYC accreditation to Plainville Day Care Center (PDCC). After retirement, Regina again became active around town. Joining the First Thursday Book Club and walking with her dear friend Jane Maciel.

her dear friend Jane Maciel.
Regina always had a garden somewhere over the years, either at their home in the Highlands, in the community gardens in the flats of Meadow Road, at the gardens at her condo or in the small flower beds around the patio. She loved flowers, cooking, and reading. Regina was known for her Christmas cookies which she would gift to friends and family. And many knew that she cooked great big Italian meals not knowing she was not Italian. She especially loved watching her grandchildren in their soccer and lacrosse games or taking visits to the library for summer reading. She and Vinny also enjoyed golfing together at Westwoods and watching

her oldest grandsons' baseball games.
Friends may call at The Ahern Funeral Home, 111
Main St., Rt. 4, Unionville on Sunday, December 12, 2021 from 4:00-7:00pm. Funeral Services will be held Monday, December 13, 2021, at 11:00am in The Ahern Funeral Home followed by burial in Biverside Cometery. Funeral Home followed by burial in Riverside Cemetery, Farmington. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Farmington Volunteer Fire Department, 1 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT 06032 or the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 280285, East Hartford, CT 06128. To send online condolences to the family, please visit www.ahernfuneralhome.com.

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Delaney, Gloria Rae (Larsen)



Gloria Rae (Larsen) Delaney died peacefully on December 5, 2021, after spending her final days with her two children, Tisa (Delaney) Pearce and Peter Delaney. She was born in Portland, Oregon on January 24,1942, the youngest of three daughters to Ray and Verna Larsen. Gloria was preceded in death by her

sister Sarah Fahey and is survived by her eldest sister, Elgie Zeni. She is also preceded in death by her exhusband, Dennis Delaney, her high school sweetheart whom she later married.

Gloria was a graduate of Lake Oswego High School and a true disciple of the lake. In the 1960's Gloria parlayed her athleticism and magnanimous personality into a professional role as a member of the Cypress Gardens' water ski team in Winter Haven, Florida. 21,1962 Sports Illustrated issue showcased the water skiers of Cypress Gardens and a full-page picture of Gloria adorned the opening page of the article, entitled "Skier's Shiny Trail". A fitting title for how she lived

With numerous relocations and residences, Gloria always created a home and safe place for her children to land. When her children were out of school, she switched gears from a housewife/mother to a burgeoning entrepreneur.

Gloria's career led her around the globe helping others with the opportunity to succeed. She poured her heart and soul into her company, Dwelling, which imported handmade products from artisans in Haiti and Kenya. The products she sold provided the artisans with an economic foundation and resources that helped them to improve the quality of their lives, their villages, and their communities. She was especially proud that her work contributed to increasing literacy and providing healthcare programs for the women artisans in Kenya.

A beacon of light and positivity, Gloria left every room she entered a better place than it was prior to her arrival. Always leaving tangible evidence of the om-nipresent "Shiny Trail", none is more evident than in her five grandchildren, Madeline and Jackson Pearce, Emmy, Lilla, and Kelly Delaney. She survived by her son-in-law, Ed Pearce, numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, and life-long friends. Her love for them, travel and chocolate were unparalleled.

The family would like to give special thanks to the Hebrew Center in West Hartford, CT (her final resting place), especially the staff on Four South, as well as Bobby and Caroline Butler. The love and kindness that they provided will never be forgotten.

A celebration of Gloria's life will be held in May of 2022 in her hometown of Lake Oswego, Oregon. The exact time and location will be provided at a later date.

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Grice, Sylvia N.



Mrs. Sylvia N. Grice was born December 12, 1941 in Sunflower, Miss. She departed this life on December 2, 2021 surrounded by her family. She was the daughter of the late Emanuel and Alice Brown. Mrs. S. Grice homegoing service will be held on December 11, 2021 at United House of Prayer for All People Wilbraham

Springfield, MA 01109, visitation hr. from 9:00 am to 10:00 am and service will start at 10 am. Burial will be in Mountain View Cemetery, Bloomfield, CT. Arrangements have been entrusted to All Faith Memorial Chapel of South Windsor, CT.

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Montanez Irizarry, Josephine



Josephine Montanez Irizarry, 65, wife of Robie Irizarry, peacefully entered her heavenly home on Monday, Dec. 6, 2021. Josephine was born in Guayama, Puerto Rico and was the daughter of the late Jose and Carmen (Soto) Montanez. Josephine retired Touchpoints in Farmington after 29 years and was a delegate for the New England

Health Care Employees Union, District 1199. Josephine loved the Lord, enjoyed reading, and took great pleasure in tending her gardens. She was lovingly devoted to her family and was an inspiration to all who knew her. Josephine genuinely embodied the spirit of strength and resilience. She truly lived by her motto of

In addition to her beloved husband Robie of 42 years, Josephine is survived by her adoring daughter: Vanessa Irizarry; her dedicated son: Michael DiBenigno Sr.; her loving brother and sister-in-law: Luis Antonio Ortiz and wife Maritza; her sister: Elsie Soto; and her sole cherished grandson: Michael DiBenigno, Jr. She is predeceased by her sister: Ileana Ortiz Soto. Josephine had one niece and several nephews.

Josephine's family would like to especially highlight both staff and residents at Autumn Lake Healthcare of New Britain. It cannot be put into words how much your given support, love, devotion, and kindness meant to her and her family. Bonds formed there made friends become family.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, December 11, 2021, at Erickson-Hansen Funeral Home, 411 So. Main Street, New Britain at 3:00PM. Calling hours will be held prior from 1PM - 3PM. Burial will take place at the Cementerio Municipal de Salinas in Puerto Rico at a later date. Please share a memory of Josephine with the family in the online guest book @ www.erickson-hansen.com.

ERICKSON-HANSEN

New Britain

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Mott, Robert J



Robert James Mott, passed away peacefully surrounded by family on November 29, 2021 after a devastatingly rapid illness. He was born in Willimantic on October 17, 1930 to Ida Knapp Mott and Frank William Mott. He was predeceased by beloved son-in-law, Dennis Sauer (July 2021), his sister Dorothy Ereshena, his

brother Myron Mott and his sister-in-law Mary Hall.
He graduated from Windham High School. He met his wife Gladys Elaine Hall of Hebron at a dance in Willimantic shortly thereafter and fell in love. He served proudly in the United States Air Force during the Korean conflict from November 16, 1951 to October 18, 1955. He married Gladys while stationed in Texas After honorable discharge from the Air Force he, his wife Gladys and their children returned to Hebron Connecticut, where he lived his entire life in the home that he and his family built.

He worked as an engineer for Pratt and Whitney his entire career until his retirement. He was a motorcycle enthusiast and for many years donned his leather flight suit and drove his motorcycle daily to Pratt and Whitney, irrespective of weather. After retirement, he enjoyed traveling with his wife Gladys in their camper. Their favorite location was East Beach in Rhode Island, where they were often joined by their family for days on the beach and nights near the campfire.

He leaves his soulmate and wife of 70 years, Gladys Hall Mott. Robert was a self-taught and talented dancer and admirers would stop and watch whenever he and Gladys took the dance floor. He loved Gladys completely and unconditionally and even at the end of his life, they lovingly held hands and stared into each other's eyes as if they were teenagers again.

He also leaves to mourn his daughter April Ellen Mott, MD of Collinsville, her son Brandon Alton Scott, his wife Kristen and son Leo; his daughter Sherry Sauer of Tolland; his daughter Michele Ryan of East Windsor and her two children Joshua (1877). and her two children Joshua and Shelby Ryan; and his son Marshall Mott, his wife Lori and their two children Abby and Hailey of Bethel. He also leaves his sistersin-law Joyce Jetter of Mansfield, Delores Erickson of New Jersey, and Marjorie and husband Dave Johnson of Marlborough.

The family would like to thank the skilled and compassionate physicians and nurses at Hartford Hospital who cared for him at the end of his life. There will be no calling hours. Burial will be at the New Hebron Cemetery on Wall Street in Hebron, CT at 2 PM on Saturday, December 11, 2021. In lieu of flowers and considering Robert's and Gladys' lifelong love and protection of all things living, please send donations to the Connecticut Humane Society at 701 Russell Rd, Newington, CT 06111 or the Connecticut Humane Society at 311 Murdock Ave., Meriden, CT 06450. For online condolences, please visit www.potterfuneral-

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Spencer, Gwendolyn W.

Gwendolyn W. Spencer, 89, of Bloomfield, CT, beloved widow of Dr. Richard P. Spencer, passed away on December 5, 2021. She is survived by her daughter Carolyn R. Spencer of Bloomfield and six nieces and nephews. In addition to her husband Dick, she was predeceased by her daughters, Jennifer H. Spencer and Priscilla J. Spencer, a brother Perry R. Williams and his wife Anne B. Williams, as well as a sister-in-law Linda Spencer. Gwen, the daughter of Claude G. and Ednah D. Williams, grew up in Garden City, Long Island. On April 7, 1956, she married Dick, her best friend. They settled in Orange, CT where they raised their three daughters. Gwen received a BS in Nursing from Skidmore College in 1954, a Master Gardener's Certificate from the University of Connecticut, and a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education. She spent most of her career as a nursery school teacher at the Orange Congregational Church and then at First Church in West Hartford. Gwen will be remembered for her kindness, beautiful smile, sense of humor, and love of all things bright and beautiful. She and Dick enjoyed going antiquing and traveling around the U.S. and the world. There are no calling hours. A funeral service will take place on Friday, December 10, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at Asylum Hill Congregational Church, Hartford. Masks are required in Church. It can be livestreamed at: ahcc. org/live-streaming and then by clicking on "Live Stream Access." In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society of Connecticut or the charity of one's choice. The family would like to thank the staff on the Cedar Unit of Caleb Hitchcock for their excellent care of Gwen. Molloy Funeral Home of West Hartford has care of arrangements.

> Molloy Funeral Home 906 FARMINGTON AVENUE WEST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06119

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Giglio, Dorothy Ann



Dorothy Ann Giglio, affectionately known to all as "Dot" age 88, of Lake City, Florida passed away on December 1, 2021, at Lake City Medical Center. Dorothy was born in Hartford, Connecticut on October 15, 1933, to the late Charles and Anna Ganter. Prior to graduating high school in 1951, she met the love of her life, Albert "Sam"

Giglio, and they were happily married in 1951. They shared 57 wonderful years of marriage and raised their family in Bolton, Connecticut. While simply helping out family in Bolton, Connecticut. While simply helping out in a family grocery store, she started a long career in the meat processing industry that spanned over forty years until she begrudgingly retired in 2008 at age 75. Dorothy was a devoted wife, loving mother and grandmother who worked tirelessly for others and cared for her family. She was preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Anna, and her loving husband, Sam. Dorothy was an avid sports fan of the Boston Red Sox, the Boston Celtics, the New York Giants (where she attended a game on her honeymoon) and especially the

tended a game on her honeymoon) and especially the UCONN Women's basketball team. She was also a long-UCONN Women's basketball team. She was also a long-standing member of the Bolton Women's Fire Auxiliary where she enjoyed marching in the annual Memorial Day Parade. Dorothy is survived by her loving sons, Robert Giglio, and his wife Carol, of Leland, NC, and Thomas Giglio, of Lake City, FL; grandchildren, Jeremy, Justin, Bryan, Brett, and Juanita; several great grandchildren; sister Rachel Miner; and numerous nieces, nephews, and extended family members and friends. A graveside service will be held on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 11:00 am at the Bolton Center Cemetery, 33 Hebron Road, Bolton, CT. To leave a memory or message of condolence, please visit www.holmeswatkins. sage of condolence, please visit www.holmeswatkins.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Larkum, Rosemary C. (Glynn)



Rosemary Cecilia (Glynn) Larkum, 97 of West Hartford CT and Osprey FL, passed peacefully Saturday evening November 27, 2021 sur-rounded by her grandchildren and family. She was born on March 28, 1924 to Daniel and Rose Glynn of West Hartford. She was the beloved wife of Albert James Larkum and is once again by his side.

Rosemary is survived by her family, Thomas Larkum and Cheryl Leva of Bloomfield, Gary and Kathy Larkum of Farmington, Steven Larkum and Cynthia Larkum (pre-deceased) of West Hartford and Joanne Tornaquindici of Canton. She dearly loved her seven grandchildren, Christopher Tornaquindici, Erin Shea, Daniel Larkum, Michelle Riley, Ryan Larkum, Brian Larkum and Jameson Larkum, as well as her five great grandchildren, Camden, McKenna, Mason, Sidney and Charlotte.

Rosemary had an amazing spirit with a smile and kind word for everyone. She was an adventurer who traveled modestly, yet lived life to the fullest. She enjoyed our world, especially the splendor of the moon and was extremely thankful for the beautiful surroundings offered to her every day.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Thursday, December 16 at 10:30 am at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 110 Main Street, Farmington CT. Burial services will be private.

In lieu of flowers, Rosemary would ask that you do something kind, embrace Mother Nature and celebrate life every day.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Powers, Wayne F.



Wayne F. Powers, 55 of Bristol passed away at his home on December 3, 2021. Wayne was born on July 16, 1966 in Caribou, Maine. He was the beloved son of Francis and Ann Powers, who loved him in every way you could love a child. For those who knew Wayne well, He was passionate person, who threw all of

that passion into everyone and

everything that he did in his life. We are eternally grateful that we got to share his passion for life with him in his time with us. He was caring, thoughtful and loved harder than most. He loved sports, and following his sports teams, especially The Boston Red Sox. He wasn't satisfied unless they won 162 games, although we know one of the highlights of his sports fandom was the Red Sox World Series win in 2004. What a great phone call that was at 12:30 in the morning that day! In addition to his parents, he leaves behind his daughter Haley, who was his everything. He adored Haley and was the most involved father he could be, attending and cheering her on at various events including her softball games, and proudly shared her success with his family. Their Saturday morning breakfasts at various diners in the area were the highlights of his week He would want us to share how much he loved Haley and what a positive impact she had on his life. In addition, Wayne leaves behind his brother Keith Powers, his wife Jill, his sister Kim Powers and Jen Pilon, who gave him the gift that Haley was in his life. Each of us will miss him deeply, more than words can adequately describe. We loved his sense of humor, the laughter he brought into each of our lives and again, the passion with which he taught us to live our lives. His lessons to us will never be forgotten. Wayne also leaves behind us will never be forgotten. Wayne also leaves behind many nieces and nephews, each who took away something from him those great lessons he taught us all. They will carry those lessons through their lives and honor his memory in a way that would make him proud. Calling hours will be held on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at O'Brien Funeral Home, 24 Lincoln Ave. Bristol from 10 AM until 11:30 AM followed by a memorial service at 11:30. Masks are requested during the visitation. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to either: Wounded Warrior Project www.woundedwarrior-project.org/ or to Terryville Animal Rescue Foundation project.org/ or to Terryville Animal Rescue Foundation www.arfct.org/ To leave an online message of condolence, share a memory or a photo, please visit Wayne's tribute page at www.OBrien-FuneralHome.com



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isit the obituary section on courant.com to share memories of loved ones.

OBITUARIES

Montgomery, Margaret E.

Margaret E. Montgomery, 83, passed away on Saturday, December 4, 2021. Born in Llandudno, North Wales, United Kingdom on December 19, 1937, she was the daughter of the late William and Eileen (McMahan) Griffiths.

At 14 years of age, she left home to become a nurse at St. Joseph's Hospital in Manchester, England. At a later date, she went to London to become a mid-wife. Interestingly, her lifestyle there is depicted in the current public television series "Call the Mid-Wife", where they traveled in the London district on bicycles to care for and deliver babies.

In 1968, she and others were recruited by Hartford Hospital and came to this country, later working at the Masonic Home and Westfield Manor.

Besides her husband, John, Margaret is survived by her sister, Patricia (Grady), her brother, Michael (Julia), her brother-in-law, Rev. Joseph Montgomery, many nieces, nephews, and many dear friends. She was predeceased by her brother, James, her sister, Mary and her brothers-in-law, Lawrence and Rev. Metthias (Donald)

Family and friends are invited to a Mass of Christian Burial to be held on Friday, December 10th, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Rose of Lima Parish, 35 Center St, Meriden, CT 06450. Everyone is asked to meet directly at church. Masks are required. Burial will follow at St. Mary's Cemetery, 1141 Stanley St, New Britain, CT 06051. There are no calling hours. Arrangements are under the direction of the John J. Ferry & Sons Funeral Home, 88 E. Main St., Meriden, CT 06450. For online condolences, please visit jferryfh.com.

John J. Ferry & Sons

FUNERAL HOME

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Robertson, William L

William Lyall Robertson, 85, of Manchester, the beloved husband of Anne (Newton) Robertson died Saturday, December 4, 2021, at Hartford Hospital. Born in Athol MA, he was the son of the late Alexander Robertson and Jessie R. Batchelor. He attended and graduated from the Athol School system. He was a US Air Force veteran of 4 years and also attended Greenfield Community College.

Lyall had worked as a Manufacturing Rep with UTD in Athol being moved to Contromatics in Rockville, CT and later Milford, NH. He eventually started his own business in 1996 where he worked until his retirement. He was a trained singer and sung in many churches, weddings, organizations and at the World's Fair in 1964-65. He married his loving wife Anne in 1965 and in addition is survived by their 3 children Rebekah and her husband Patrick, Craig and his wife Tammy, and Laurel and her companion Courtney; his grandchildren Brittany and companion John, Tristan and companion Colleen, Samantha, Nicole, Evan, Kolby, and Cayden; and his great-grandchildren Harley, Lily and Kensley. He is also survived by his sister Margaret; his sister-in-law Joan; and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his stepfather Stuart Batchelor, brothers Bruce and Alexander; and the forever missed Mustard. His family will miss his quick wit, his silly humor, and the love he had for family, friends, and his pets.

There are no calling hours or funeral service. His family would like to offer a special note of thanks to Hartford Hospital and Hartford Healthcare at Home Hospice. The John F. Tierney Funeral Home, Manchester, CT, has care of the arrangements. Memorial donations can be made in Lyall's name to the Alzheimer's Association. For online condolences, please visit www.tierneyfuneralhome.com.



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Serdechny, Catherine E. (Benz)



Catherine (Benz) Serdechny, 96, Wethersfield, wife of the late Nicholas L. Serdechny, passed away peacefully on November 28, 2021. Born on February 1, 1925 to the late John J. and Margaret (Gunning) Benz in Hartford. She was a devout Catholic and enjoyed her time with friends in the Ladies Guild at church. She

loved her family and friends; she was known for her big heart and all were welcome in her house. She was very benevolent and helped anyone who needed it, especially donating to many charities in her life.

Catherine leaves behind her two sons, Ken Anderson and his wife Linda of Naples, Florida and Old Saybrook and John Serdechny and his wife Diane of Glastonbury. Her grandchildren, Christina, Julia, Ashlee and her husband Otoniel and great-granddaughter, Liliana. She also leaves behind numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Catherine is predeceased by her brother John Benz, Jr. and her first husband George K. Anderson.

Services will be private. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Hospital 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 . For further information, or to leave a condolence, please visit FarleySullivan.com

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Wyrick, Kenneth Loy



Kenneth Loy Wyrick ended his fourth quarter peacefully at the age of 72 on November 27, 2021 in Knoxville, Tennessee, just up the road from where he grew up to be one of the best tailbacks of all time for Central High School, Class of 1966. Ken went on to graduate from the United States Academy at West Point in

Academy at West Point in 1971 and was captain of the Army Football team. He left this physical existence surrounded by family, including his wife, Lee Wyrick, his children, Lauren, Casey, Jillian and David, and his best friend of over fifty years, Michael Masciello. His siblings are Stephen Wyrick and Janet Dempsey and her husband Jon. He is the son of the late Kenneth C. Wyrick, and Inis Loy Wyrick Smelser. He is Uncle Kenny to Lisa Kate, Mary, Alex Laura and Rebecca Alex, Laura, and Rebecca.

Alex, Laura, and Rebecca.
Ken would tell you that after family and friends and teammates, his most meaningful times were spent as a coach. Mudhogs and Avon Little League were very special to him. He valued the comradery of his fellow coaches. Most of all, he loved the kids. Their attention and enthusiasm for the game gave him so so much. He was forever grateful to watch these young boys over the years become men. The congruinity to witness the years become men. The opportunity to witness this, alongside all the proud parents watching their sons battle together, and for one another, gave him no

greater joy.
There will be a private celebration of Ken's life in 2022.
Please join Ken's family in remembrance by tuning in to watch Army beat Navy on what would have been his seventy-third birthday, December 11, 2021. BEAT

Online condolences may be sent to www.spencerfuner-

alhomeinc.com. Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Johnson, Nancy M



Nancy Dian Mason Johnson, nee Monroe, of Old Lyme, passed away on December 4, 2021. She was born on September 27, 1941, in Schoharie, NY, the daughter of Richard and Carrie Monroe. Nancy was a superb cook, an avid gardener, and an accomplished seamstress who won several awards as a former member of the Shoreline

Junior Women's Club. Her hobbies included reading and decorating, as well as being an avid UConn Women's Basketball fan, referring to them as "her girls'. Nancy's biggest passion was selling real estate, having helped hundreds of buyers and sellers, while staying in touch with them during her extensive career spanning 44 years. Her co-workers at William Pitt/ Sotheby's recently called her a real estate "rock star." Nancy is survived by her husband Robert Johnson; children Elizabeth (Mason) Parson and her husband Bryan of Clayton, NC, and Gregory Mason of Deep River; brothers James Monroe of Clifton Park, NY, and Tommy Monroe; grandchildren Hunter Fitzgerald, Autumn Fitzgerald and Nicholas Parson; great-grandchildren Mason Fitzgerald and Isla Fitzgerald. Services will be privately held. To sign the online guest

book visit www.swanfuneralhomeoldsaybrook.com.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Pinckney, Jr., Marion



Marion Pinckney, Jr. age 83 transitioned on Tuesday, November 16, 2021. A transitioned on Tuesday, November 16, 2021. A Celebration of Marion's life will take place on Friday, WIII take place on Friday, December 10, 2021, at 11:00am with a visitation from 10:00am – 11:00am at Victory Cathedral, 185 Bellevue Street Hartford, CT 06120. Interment will be in Rose Hill Cemetery,

580 Elm St., Rocky Hill, CT. To leave a message of comfort for the Pinckney family and view the full obituary please visit, www.hkhfuneralservices.com



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Riggott Jr., Orrin W.



Orrin William Riggott Jr., 79, of Berlin, husband of Eleanor Riggott, passed away on Sunday, Dec. 5, 2021.
Born in New Britain, he was the son of the late Orrin

William Riggott Sr., and Edna (Goodrich) Riggott. Orrin was a Cromwell and New Britain resident before moving to Porlin seven years ago. He Berlin seven years ago.

Raymond Engineering before retiring. Orrin enjoyed fishing and hunting. He volunteered at the Memorial Food Booth at the Berlin Fair for many years. He was a past secretary for Mattabassett Rifle and Pistol Club, and a longtime ham radio operator.

Surviving is devoted family, including his wife, Eleanor (Bogoslawski) Riggott; two sons, Kevin Riggott and his wife Michelle Niedermeyer of Granby, Wayne Riggott and his wife Amy of Kensington; two sisters, Edna "Tootsie" Kahrmann and Judy Mullavey; two grandchildren, Robyn and her husband Conner Bernard and Eryn Riggott, along with many nieces and nephews. He also leaves behind many lifelong friends.

Calling hours will be held on Friday from 4-6 PM at Erickson-Hansen Funeral Home of Berlin/Porter's, 111 Chamberlain Hwy., Kensington. Please share a memory of Orrin with the family in the online guest book @ www.ericksonhansenberlin.com

ERICKSON-HANSEN

Berlin

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Trifone, Sanja Pevac



Sanja Pevac Trifone, 43, of Newington, died on December 5, 2021, at the Hospital of Central CT, after a long battle with a rare disease called Churg-Strauss Syndrome.

Relatives and friends are invited to call on SATURDAY, Dec. 11, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Duksa Family Funeral Homes at Newington Memorial, 20 Bonair Ave.

Newington. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on MONDAY, Dec. 13, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. directly at the Church of the Holy Spirit, 183 Church St., Newington. She will be laid to rest in West Meadow Cemetery, Newington. To view her full life story and to share your sorrow, please visit us at www.duksa.net.



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Zuder, Angeline "Angie"



Angeline (Angie) Zuder, 74, of Berlin CT, passed away peace-fully at home on Monday, December 6th, 2021 surrounded by her husband Andrew, her children, and granddaughter.

Born in New Britain, daughter of the late Salvatore and Dora Balfore, she grew up and lived in Berlin her entire life. Angie graduated from St. Thomas

Aquinas, and was a Registered Nurse. She ended her career working for the Berlin VNA and loved taking care of her patients. Angle was a member of St. Paul's church where she had previously taught religious classes.

Angle is survived by her beloved husband of 52 years, Andrew, her daughter Doree, her son Sean, her granddaughter's Lina and Maisey, as well as her beloved dog Max. Angie leaves behind her sister, Delores Carriker and brother-in-law, Dr. Roy Carriker. Angie also leaves behind many nephews, great-nieces & great-nephews. Angie is pre-deceased by her brother Vincent Balfore. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held Saturday, December 11, 2021 at 10 a.m. at St. Paul's Church, Berlin. Burial will follow in St. Mary Cemetery, New Britain. Visitation will be held at Erickson-Hansen Funeral Home of Berlin/Porter's on Saturday from 9 AM to 9:30 AM. Memorial donations may be made to the Berlin VNA. Please share a memory of Angie with the family in the online guest book @ www.ericksonhansenbérlin.com.

ERICKSON-HANSEN

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OBITUARIES

FOSTER, DEON



Deon Foster, 50, transcended peacefully surrounded by family October 14, 2021 in New York City. Born and raised in Htfd, CT, on June 18, 1971, to predeceased Hazel Foster & Leon Harris, Deon will be sadly missed by sister, latrice. Foster: brothers Latrice Foster; brothers, Jamaal Foster, Henry Andrews Jr., Akeem Moore, and many relatives/friends.

Please celebrate Deon's life dressed in all black with family December 10, 2021, at The American Legion, 2121 Main Street, Hartford, CT 6PM-10PM

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Mourey, Richard "Dick" L.



Richard LaRue "Dick" Mourey, 91, a longtime resident of East Hartford passed away peacefully on Sunday, November 28, 2021 at Hartford Hospital with his loving wife, Mary, by his

He is survived by his most beloved wife of 65 years, Mary J. (Scollo) Mourey; his chil-dren, Richard R. Mourey and his wife Theresa of Elkhorn, NE: Mishalla LAustin and har NE; Michelle J. Austin and her

husband Gordon of Burke, VA; and Lynn A.
Mourey and her husband Steven Greenspan
of Goshen, KY; as well as his cherished
grandchildren, Alexandra, Madylyn, Richard
John "RJ", Kyra, Kayleen and Cameron; as well as
many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his
brother, Charles L. Mourey of Plainville, and his niece
Sandee Mourey of Arizona.

Dick was born February 9, 1930 in Harrisburg

Sandee Mourey of Arizona.

Dick was born February 9, 1930 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania to the late Charles R. and Sybil (Swearingin) Mourey and was a 1947 graduate of Bulkeley High School in Hartford. He married his high school sweetheart, Mary Jane, on October 13, 1956.

Dick was a voracious reader and exceptional writer with a passion for science, especially aerospace engineering and history, especially the history of WWII. He served as a Communications Specialist in the Army Reserve for 8 years enlisting in 1950 and was honorably discharged in 1958.

He began his career in the 1950's as a reporter at The Hartford Courant. While there, he created the position of Aviation Editor and covered the state's large aviation industry through his weekly Aerospace column. He became the paper's science and medical writer and had other general assignments including the police and fire beat. As Aviation Editor, on June 27, 1958 he reported live to WTIC from one of the U.S. Air Force KC-135 jet live to WTIC from one of the U.S. Air Force KC-135 jet tankers making a transatlantic flight from Westover Air Force Base in Chicopee, MA to London, England in an attempt to establish a new overseas speed record for the aircraft.

Notably, he covered the historic fire that destroyed the Cathedral of St. Joseph on New Year's Eve, 1956. A high point in his career as a science writer was when he had the opportunity to spend two days at MIT with the young biologists, Watson and Crick, who discovered the DNA molecule and a day at Harvard with Charles Draper, the father of inertial navigation systems, whose discoveries revolutionized air and sea navigation.

Dick then served as Director and VP of Investor and Public Relations at Echlin Manufacturing in Branford, CT, handling all financial press activities, including communications to Wall Street, and the company's annual reports. There he worked with an inventor of the magnetic technology that became a groundbreaking technology in access control systems (the Weigand effect). He went on to establish his own marketing communications agency, TechComm in the 1980's, focusing on high-tech clients specializing in the security industry (and, he would share he "had a ball"). During this time, he was a member of the Business Press Association's Compatibility Committee, setting the standards for the trade publications in the security industry.

He was also a member of a number of professional associations, including the American Helicopter Society, Public Relations Society of America, the Aviation and Space Writer's Association and Ad Club of Hartford and

In addition to his long and varied career, Dick actively served his local community for over 60 years in many capacities including the Town of East Hartford Charter Commission where he was also a former Chairman, Town of East Hartford Board of Assessment Appeals, Town of East Hartford Board of Finance, and the Exchange Club of East Hartford, and a Justice of the Peace in East Hartford. He was also an active member of the Republican Town Committee for over 60 years where he was the Chairman for five years, and in 1997, Dick was the Republican Mayoral candidate for the Town of East Hartford.

On the state level, Dick handled press relations for the Republican State Central Committee for many years, the State of Connecticut General Assembly House Republicans, the House Minority Leader (one term) and managed press publications and relations for George

H.W. Bush's primary campaign in Connecticut.

Dick was an avid skier and a former member of the
Springfield Ski Club. He also liked golfing, model airplanes, reading, and history. He was a loyal fan of the UConn Women's Basketball Team (he watched every game and seriously he could recite the stats of all the players) and the NY Giants football team.

Of all of Dick's accomplishments, he counted his greatest to be his cherished family and spending time with his wife, children and grandchildren to be among his fondest moments.

fondest moments.
Honoring Dick's wishes, private funeral service and burial will be held at the convenience of the family. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers and services, memorial donations in Richard L. Mourey's name may be made to the following charities: Children's National Hospital (NICU), 111 Michigan Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20010 https://giving.childrensnational. org, or to the First Congregational Church of East Hartford, 837 Main Street, East Hartford, CT 06108 https://www.churchcorners.org. The D'Esopo East Hartford Memorial Chapel, 30 Carter Street, East Hartford has been entrusted with the care of the funeral arrangements. For on-line expressions of sympathy to the family, please visit www.desopoeh.com. the family, please visit www.desopoeh.com.



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Stets, Susan E.

Susan E. Stets, 63, a resident of Hartford, CT for many years died November 2, 2021 at Hartford Hospital fol-Íowing a brief illness.

Born in Port Chester, NY she was the daughter of the late John and Pauline (Dailey) Stets.
She attended Fitch High School in Groton and was a graduate from the University of Connecticut.
Susan is survived by her sister, Mary Anne Stets and her husband, H. Wes Maxwell; a sister-in-law, Mary Lee Stets; thirteen nieces and nephews and twenty-two grandnieces and nephews. She was predeceased by grandnieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brothers, John, James & Daniel Stets and a sisterin-law, Constance.

Her burial was held privately. There were no calling hours.

The Mystic Funeral Home is handling Susan's

arrangements. Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory Of TIASHA MONIQUE MANSFIELD





Happy Birthday to our wonderful Mommy. We miss you every day and love you so much! You'll always remain in our hearts. Taijon and Samir.

In Loving Memory Of TIASHA MONIQUE MANSFIELD



12/9/1981-1/26/2019

To our Dear Angel in Heaven, we just want you to know that you are always in our thoughts and how much we still

Happy Birthday in Heaven, The Mansfield Family

In Loving Memory Of DEACON RUSSELL T. RUTH, SR.



On this day, one year ago our beloved Russell departed from us in the physical form but the legacy he left behind has superseded his name. He will always be remembered for his greatness and as the "Committee of Andover Street" We will continue to be proved the committee of the street of the stre Street". We will continue to honor Deacon Russell T. Ruth, Sr. through his family and friends.

Love Always,

Your wife, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren



Stories live on. Tell theirs.

Share your loved one's story.

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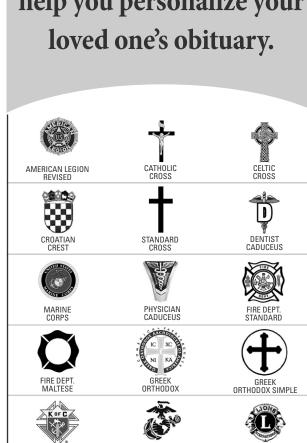
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Ask us for our listing of emblems and how we can help you personalize your loved one's obituary.



















































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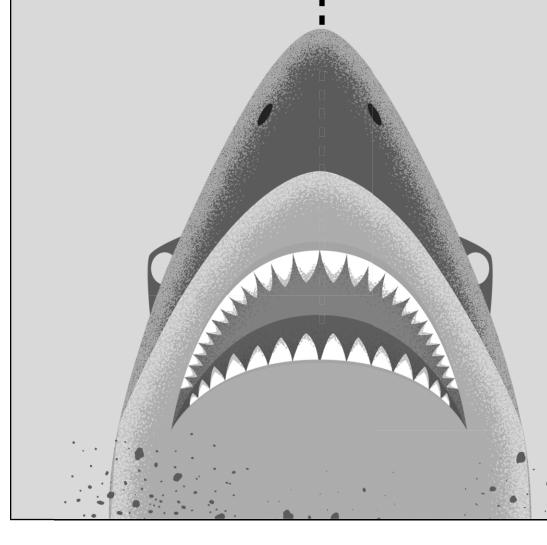




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Hartford Courant

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'Big mistake'?

By Seamus McAvoy
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — A Hartford city council member spent \$3,500 of city money on small gifts for city employees from a local company owned by his daughter, potentially violating the city's ethics code.

John Gale, a lawyer and founder of the minority Hartford Party, purchased 1,400 'Hartford' pins for \$2 each, plus 1,400 pin clips (\$322) and 1,400 envelopes (\$392) for a total of \$3,514, according to a Hart-

ford Prints! invoice. He had the pins delivered to city employees, along with thank-you cards bearing his name and that of his political party, Gale and city officials confirmed.

Gale said he self-reported the incident to the Hartford Ethics Commission through the Corporation Counsel's Office, the body the commission supports, on Dec. 1 after city officials flagged the issue. Thea Montanez, chief operating officer and acting mayor during Mayor Luke Bronin's absence, confirmed Gale has self-reported in an email to the Courant.

The city has since received a check from Gale reimbursing the city in full, according to Craig Trujillo, head of Hartford's Internal Audit Department.

"Big mistake on my part, I really just hadn't thought this through," Gale said in an interview Tuesday. "In retrospect, I clearly should've called corporation counsel and said, 'Is there any issues with me doing this?'"

The incident is on the agenda for the city ethics commission's Dec. 14 meet-

ing. David Klein, commission chair, said Monday he for th

commission.

"The basic rule is, you're not supposed to do anything that uses city resources for your own personal gain," Klein said. "If you spend city money for personal or family gain, that's a violation

had not spoken with Gale

or other members of the

of the ethics code."
Asked if the envelopes, which included Gale's name and political party, constitutes personal gain, Klein said "I don't think there's any question about it, yes."

Gale said he had the idea for the pins in March to recognize city employees for continuing their tireless efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic. "You're not going to be a police officer and work remotely, you're not going to pick up the garbage remotely, you're not going to give shots [remotely]," Gale

A Hartford councilman paid his daughter's company \$3,500 with city money for gifts for city employees, then paid it back.

Gale turned to Hartford Prints!, a popular citythemed urban goods brand, which is primarily owned by his daughter, Rory Gale.

Turn to Gifts, Page 2



Hartford city councilman John Gale gave pins from Hartford Prints! to city employees. The purchase, made with city funds, will be considered by the city's ethics commission. HANDOUT



Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel testifies during an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Communications Commission on Capitol Hill on June 24, 2020, in Washington, D.C.

Rosenworcel approved as FCC chairperson

West Hartford native gets OK by Senate in a 68-31 vote

By Rick Green Hartford Courant

West Hartford native Jessica Rosenworcel has been approved by the U.S. Senate as the next chair of the Federal Communications Commission, a powerful consumer protection authority in Washington,

The Senate voted 68-31 on Tuesday to approve President Joe Biden's nomination of Rosenworcel to become permanent chair of the FCC. "It's the honor of my lifetime to lead the @FCC and serve as the first permanent female Chair. Thank you to the President and Senate for entrusting me with this responsibility. There's work to do to make sure modern communications reach everyone, everywhere. Now let's get to it," she said in a tweet

It's history making

Rosenworcel will become the first woman to lead the five-member FCC in the agency's nearly 90-year history. She has served on the FCC for the last nine years. She will lead a Democratic majority on the FCC, which has broad jurisdiction over interstate and

international communications, including major media companies.

She's a Hall High graduate

After graduating from Hall High School in West Hartford in 1989, Rosenworcel received a bachelor's degree in economics and English literature from Wesleyan University in Middletown and a law degree from New York University in 1997. She lives now in Washington, D.C. with her husband and two children.

Rosenworcel was first nominated to serve on the FCC in 2011 by President Barack Obama. President Donald Trump nominated her in 2017 for an additional five-year term.

Broadband access is a top priority

Rosenworcel is an advocate for bringing broadband communications to underserved communities and for net neutrality regarding the internet and what she calls the "homework gap"

the "homework gap."

"Too many families are struggling to get online, even in 2021," she told CNET earlier this year, saying she supports expanding a federal subsidy that benefits low income families. "We need to find new ways to tackle it, so that everyone,

Turn to FCC, Page 2

HAMDEN HIGH SCHOOL

Metal detectors coming after threats

By Christine Dempsey
Hartford Courant

Driven by online threats of violence at Hamden High School and the recent discovery of a loaded gun there, the town's superintendent of schools made the rare move of buying freestanding metal detectors for the building.

Superintendent Jody Ian Goeler announced the new security feature and others at a special board of education meeting Monday night. He outlined eight ways administrators plan to keep students safe, some new, some not. Some of the measures were in place for students' return to class Wednesday after three days off because of threats.

Wednesday after three days off because of threats.
School officials, after consulting with police and town officials, opted to cancel classes Friday after learning about a threat on social media Thursday

night. They learned about

another threat Sunday evening and decided to remain closed until Wednesday while increasing secu-

On Oct. 5, a Hamden High School student was arrested after a loaded handgun was found in the 17-year-old's backpack. And on Nov. 29, a 13-year-old student stabbed a fellow student who is 14 outside the high school during a fight just off campus, police said. The younger teen was arrested; the older one is recovering.
On Tuesday, there were threats at two middle schools in town, Hamden Middle School and Booker

schools in town, Hamden Middle School and Booker T. Washington Academy, a charter middle school, Det. Sean Dolan said. There also were threats at Eli Whitney Technical High School in Hamden; state police made two arrests.

Schools in other towns and cities have had threats

Turn to Threats, Page 2

Military-spending bill wins a pivotal vote in Congress

By Stephen Singer Hartford Courant

The U.S. House of Representatives has authorized nearly \$780 billion in military spending that would keep Connecticut's three Pentagon contractors and hundreds of suppliers busy building fighter jet engines, helicopters and submarines.

The National Defense Authorization Act, which the House backed Tuesday in a bipartisan vote of 363-70, now heads to the Senate. It's among the first steps toward final approval for the federal budget that begins next year.

Sen. Richard Blumenthal, a Connecticut Democrat and member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said the Senate would make no changes and would likely vote on the measure by the end of the week and send it to President Joe Biden for his expected signature.

Facing an array of global dangers, Congress

added money to face off against Russia as it masses troops on its border with Ukraine, and China, which is increasingly threatening toward Taiwan and active in the Pacific region.

Blumenthal said he attended on Tuesday a classified briefing he described as "deeply sobering and downright scary" that detailed Russia's aggression against Ukraine.

The measure includes \$300 million for the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative to support that country's military and added \$2 billion to Biden's \$5 billion Pacific Deterrence Initiative intended to beef up a response by the U.S. and regional allies to Chinese aggression.

Rep. Joe Courtney, D-2nd and a member of the House Armed Services Committee, said \$8.8 billion for 85 F-35 fighter jets manufactured by Lockheed Martin Corp.

Turn to Bill, Page 2

Lawhorn denied pretrial release

Former coach stands accused of sexually assaulting teen players

By Edmund H. Mahony Hartford Courant

A federal judge has again denied bail for Danny Lawhorn Jr., the former Bria Holmes Elite basketball coach accused of sexually assaulting three teenage girls who played for the program, because the relatives Lawhorn proposed to the court as his pretrial release custodi-

ans have criminal records.
One of the proposed custodians, an aunt who would be responsible for supervising Lawhorn while he is free on bail and guaranteeing his court appearances, has a conviction for failing to appear in court, multiple larceny convictions and appears to have used false names and ages when arrested, according to information presented in court.

A proposed backup custodian, described as a cousin with a modeling career, has a larceny conviction and failed to pay income taxes since 2017, according to the same information.

Neither of the proposed custodians were identified. In addition, the people Lawhorn identified as

In addition, the people Lawhorn identified as co-signers of what would likely be a \$250,000 bond appear to lack the money to pay the obligation should Lawhorn abscond.

U.S. Magistrate Judge



Danny Lawhorn Jr., a former coach for the Bria Holmes Elite girls basketball program, is accused of sexually assaulting teen players and now faces federal charges, authorities say. **FILE**

Robert A. Richardson denied a pretrial release for a second time during a video hearing Tuesday, but said Lawhorn can return to court with another release plan. Richardson said he was concerned more with the criminal histories of the custodians than with the solvency of the bond co-signatories.

"That does not give me a great deal of confidence that the person is going to be a suitable custodian," Richardson said.

Lawhorn is accused of using his position as a coach and advocate to coerce sex acts over the last four years from three teenage members of the

Turn to Lawhorn, Page 2

By Seamus McAvoy Hartford Courant

Hamden police arrested a Hamden Middle School student Wednesday in connection with several online threats made Tuesday against the middle school and Hamden High School, police said.

The student, a 13-year-old male, was charged with first-degree threatening and second-degree beach of peace. He is scheduled to appear in juvenile court in New Haven on Dec. 20.

Mayor Lauren Garrett said she hopes to swift arrest "provides a measure of relief" to parents and community members amid a wave of threats at area schools, none of which thus far have been found by police to be legitimate.

"This has been a trying time for our community," Garrett said in a statement, urging officials to continue to provide mental and emotional support resources.

"I would like to commend the [Hamden Police Department] for their steadfast efforts throughout this daunting ordeal, as they maintained a watchful presence over our schools," Garrett added.

The recent cluster of threats began late last week in the wake of the mass shooting at a public high school in Oxford, Michigan, in which four students were killed. An online threat made against Hamden High Thursday night prompted Superintendent Jody Ian Goeler to close the school Friday in conjunction with town officials.

Officials closed the high school on Monday and Tuesday after another threat emerged Sunday evening.

On Tuesday, there was a threat made against Booker T. Washington Academy, a charter middle school, in addition to the threat made against Hamden Middle School, Det. Sean Dolan said.

Eli Whitney Technical High School, a technical school also in Hamden, received threats on Monday and Tuesday and was placed under lockdown on both days. Both threats were determined to be hoaxes by police. State police arrested two 14-year-old male students Tuesday in connection with the threats.

Goeler said the school district "will follow all appropriate protocols

related to discipline for" the threat at Hamden Middle School Tuesday, which led to the Wednesday arrest.

"I want to thank our Police Department for its continued partnership in keeping our schools safe and secure places for learning. I am grateful their thorough investigation led to an arrest," Goeler said in

Hamden police have increased their presence at area schools in recent days, and more safety measures are coming soon. Goeler announced Monday night that the administration has purchased freestanding metal detectors — a rare move for schools in the state — to be installed in the high school to supplement other safety measures.

Hamden police credited Detective Shawn Nutcher as "instrumental" in identifying the student suspect allegedly responsible for the threat to the middle and high schools Tuesday.

Courant staff Christine Dempsey contributed to this report.

Seamus McAvoy may be reached at smcavoy@courant.com

Threats

as well, including New Haven and Stratford. Many of the social media threats are believed to have been spurred by the Nov. 30 shooting at Oxford High School in Michigan that killed four students and wounded seven.

Because of the previous incidents at Hamden High School, there already has been a stepped-up police presence at Hamden schools, Dolan said.

The superintendent's security plan calls for even more public safety personnel: He wants to add security guards and add a second school resource officer to the high school. He also wants to create a security supervisor position.

But perhaps the most unusual change is the addition of walkthrough metal detectors at each of Hamden High School's entrances. The detectors are common at airports and courthouses but not

in Connecticut schools, with high schools in Bridgeport and New Haven among the few that have them. Some districts, like Hartford and New Britain, have purchased handheld, metal-detecting wands to use on a case-by-case basis, if warranted.

Mayor Lauren Garrett said Goeler bought the freestanding metal detectors for \$14,000. They come with wands to be used if the larger metal detector is set off, which often happens because of belt buckles or metal clasps.

Until the new metal detectors are set up, the school will borrow about a half-dozen handheld wands from the police department, Garrett said.

The mayor said she has some concerns about making students walk through a metal detector each

day.
"I think that metal detectors can give us a false sense of security," she said. "They also can make students feel uncomfortable. Instead of making students thrive, it can feel more like a prison."

She plans to review mental health services provided by the town through contractors, she said.

"I want to make sure, in all of this planning, that we are talking about mental health. I want to make sure we're doing everything we can for the health of our students," she said.

Robert Rader, executive director of the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, said the association does not keep track of which school systems have metal detectors. He agrees that a strong school security plan involves more than having devices that detect

"School safety is a complex issue with no simple solutions," Rader said. "Metal detectors are just one of many contributing factors to provide greater school security.

"Probably the largest issue is the importance of improving school climate and student mental health," he said.

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Lawhorn

from Page 1

Bria Holmes' AAU girls basketball program who were hoping to earn college basketball scholarships. It is a crime under state law for a coach to use his position of authority to coerce women under age 18. In addition to the sex charges, Lawhorn is accused

of possession of crack cocaine on one occasion and 300 packages of the synthetic opioid fentanyl on

Federal prosecutor Neeraj Patel said Lawhorn should be confined because his sexual behavior and drug charges make him both a danger to the community and a risk of flight. Lawhorn faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years if convicted of a federal sex offense. When arrested on the charges that are the subject of the detention hearing, Hartford police had to pursue Lawhorn on foot and pull him off a fence to take him into custody.

The alleged assaults occurred separately over multiple years and involved girls who were traveling with Lawhorn for basketball tournaments across the state and country, court records show.

Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin reelected to lead Connecticut Conference of Municipalities

By Kaitlin McCallum Hartford Courant

Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin will continue to lead the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities in the coming year. Bronin was reelected president of the town advocacy group at its annual convention and will begin his second term

Bronin, midway through his second term as Hartford mayor, has seen the city through a series of crises, including taking the capital from near-bankruptcy through a state bailout toward financial stability by cutting back city services and prioritizing economic development. The first Hartford mayor to hold the post, he has often advocated for a regional approach to issues.

"I'm grateful for the confidence of my colleagues around the state and honored to serve as president of CCM for another year," Bronin said in a release from the organization. "We're at a critical moment in our recovery, and it's critical that we continue to build a strong partnership between state and local government and ensure that our cities and towns are working hand in hand on issues that affect our local communi-

CCM Executive Director and CEO Joe Delong praised Bronin for his leadership in pushing for state legislative action on regionalizing services, climate initiatives and local revenue diversification.

"CCM is very fortunate to have such an experienced mayor to lead our 168 member communities in 2022," DeLong said. "He is well-respected on both sides of



Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin was reelected to a second term as president of CCM at the organization's annual meeting

the political aisle at both the state and local levels and will play a key role in forging consensus on important state-local issues during the 2022 General Assembly session.

"We look forward to Mayor Bronin leading CCM as we work closely with Governor Lamont and the General Assembly to enact the key state-local legislation needed for property-tax-paying residents and businesses across Connecticut, as our state continues to forge a roadway to greater economic prosperity and safer public health while we continue our effective, vigilant battle against the variants of the COVID-19 pandemic."
CCM's board of directors

includes 23 mayors, first selectmen and town managers from Connecticut municipalities. Thomas Dunn, mayor of Wolcott, was elected first vice president and Stratford Mayor Laura Hoydick was elected second vice president.

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FCC

from Page 1

everywhere has access to broadband."

Robocalls

The incoming chair promises to clamp down on annoying robocalls. "Unwanted robocalls are not only a nuisance, but they also pose a serious risk to consumers who can inadvertently share sensitive, personal information in response to bad actors' malicious schemes," she said earlier

Net neutrality

Rosenworcel has been a supporter of so-called net neutrality rules that prevent internet providers from charging higher fees for delivery or slow-

ing down or blocking traffic. "Net neutrality is internet free-

dom. I support that freedom," Rosenworcel said when the FCC voted to rollback net neutrality rules under former President

"Wherever we need to go to ensure that net neutrality stays the law of the land. Because if you are conservative or progressive, you benefit from internet openness. If you come from a small town or big city, you benefit from internet openness. If you are a company or nonprofit, you benefit from internet openness. If you are a startup or an established business, you benefit from internet openness. If you are a consumer or a creator, you benefit from internet openness. If you believe in democracy, you benefit from internet openness."

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Bill

from Page 1

and equipped with Pratt & Whitney engines represents no increase from last year. The program faces tough questions in Congress over its \$1.7 trillion lifetime cost over several decades, the greatest in U.S. military history for a weapons

"Historically, there's almost always been an increase in the president's request," Courtney said 'This is the first year it got nothing higher than the president's request. It does show, I think, that the concerns about sustainment cost have sunk in."

Rep. John Larson, a Democrat whose district includes Pratt & Whitney, a subsidiary of Raytheon Technologies Corp., said the first priority was paying to modernize aircraft and equipment. The defense spending bill fully funded those efforts and added \$1.1 billion to retrofit older aircraft to the newest configuration, he said.

The plane has had three major

upgrades in the last 10 years, but the engine has not, Larson said. Modernizing the engine would reduce fuel consumption and costs for sustainment — those associated with maintaining and sustaining the aircraft — and save the taxpayer \$52 billion over the life of the program, he said.

Spending also includes \$710 million for maintenance of the USS Hartford next year at Electric Boat in Groton, a key step in helping the private shipyard, a subsidiary of General Dynamics Corp., compete with Navy yards for repair and maintenance work.

And the legislation authorizes \$20 million to support training for the expansion of the skilled submarine workforce as the industrial base ramps up construction of submarines.

Pentagon programs funded in the measure include:

 \$2.9 billion to fully fund another Columbia Class ballistic missile submarine.

 \$1.8 billion in advance procurement for the Columbia Class, including an additional \$300 million above the president's budget request to develop the supplier base.

• \$4.2 billion for two Virginia Class submarines

• More than \$2.1 billion in advance procurement for future work, including long lead material for the Navy that decided to exercise the option for 10 Virginia Class submarines.

• \$8.8 billion for 85 F-35 joint

strike fighters. • \$1.5 billion for 11 CH-53K King

Stallion, or heavy lift, helicopters. • \$841.8 million for nine Black Hawk helicopters and \$146.1 million in advanced procurement

funding. • \$792.2 million in procurement funding for 14 combat rescue heli-

copters. \$280.9 million for future vertical lift research, development, test and evaluation.

• \$17.5 million for a new Connecticut Army National Guard Readiness Center in Putnam.

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The Department of Defense this week awarded contracts valued at over \$2.01 billion to Lockheed Martin Corp. to continue making and maintaining the F-35 fighter jet fleet for the U.S. and its allies through 2023.

Gifts

from Page 1

John Gale said he was drawn to a recent pin design, which spells out "Hartford" in a 1970s-style retro script.

Hartford Prints usually sells enamel pins for \$10 each, but the unit cost for this purchase was reduced to \$2 after Hartford Prints! agreed to buy 1,400 pins, one for each city employee, from a wholesaler.

Gale also purchased thank-you cards to go along with the pin. "You put the heart in [heart icon]ford. Here is a token in appreciation; because of you we all have Hartford Pride," the letter reads. The letter is signed "Councilman John Q. Gale," followed by "The Hartford Party."

Gale said he tapped into the city council budget, which allocated

\$5,000 to each council member to use for civic engagement during the 2021 fiscal year, to pay the approximately \$3,500 cost. "Big, big faux pas on my part, not really thinking clearly here," Gale said.

The Hartford Prints invoice is dated March 17, with a due date of

Gale denied that he was using the pins and cards for campaign purposes, adding that he included the name of his party solely for identification purposes.

"I didn't know if the [Democrats] were going to send out something on their own, the [Working Families Party] had done a little video of their own, so I didn't know," Gale said.

"And I just think The Hartford Party is cute, my big party of one," Gale continued. "It just sort of came naturally, again, without thinking it through very clearly."

The purchase was approved on June 10 by Maly Rosado, city council president, Noel McGregor Jr., Hartford town and city clerk, and David Grant, executive assistant and legislative liaison to the council under Gale and Rosado. Their approval is listed in city documents and confirmed by Trujillo, the Internal Audit Department head.

"This invoice was approved by [Rosado] and also went through all the other approvals of finance within our financial system," Trujillo said. "The question of whether it's a valid city expense, nobody addressed that during the approval process."

Rosado was not available for comment by the time of publica-

The pins arrived in early November, Gale said. He gave them to Marlene Fleeting, Hartford's human resources director, to distribute to city employees. Gale said Fleeting advised him to distribute the pins himself because of the "The Hartford Party" signature, and Gale gave them to Grant instead. The pins were handed out around Nov. 29, the Monday after Thanksgiving, Gale said.

Montanez, Hartford's chief operating officer, said in an email to The Courant that she learned of the incident from Rosado, who informed her on "Tuesday, Dec. 1"

Montanez said she contacted Gale the same day to confirm Rosado's report, and told him she was concerned about a potential ethics

code violation. Gale immediately reported himself to Corporation Counsel's Office and wrote a check to the city for the full \$3,514 amount dated Dec. 1, he said. Trujillo said the city has received Gale's check, which

should be cashed soon. Gale expressed that he has been

forthcoming about the purchase with city officials since his phone call with Montanez. Bruce Rubenstein, a lawyer who serves on Hartford's Internal Audit Commission, heavily criticized what Gale described as a mistake, alleging Gale "tried to pull a fast one on the taxpayers."

"This is from the capital city from a two-term councilman who's not a dope, he's a lawyer by profession," Rubenstein said. "He should have known better."

"For anybody that wants to make that criticism, I mean, they're right," Gale said. "I should have known better. I surprised myself. Believe me, I'm beating myself up over it."

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CONNECTICUT

SIMSBURY

Private girls school gets \$25M gift

By Jesse Leavenworth Hartford Courant

An anonymous alumnus has given \$25 million to the Ethel Walker School in Simsbury, the school announced Wednesday, the largest gift in the history of the private all-girls school.

The money will go to Ethel Walker's endowment and capital projects, school officials said.

"This donor's generous support allows us to grow our endowment significantly and assists us in undertaking transformative

capital projects to enhance the experience of students and faculty and the school's already beautiful campus," school head Meera Viswanathan said.

Some funds will be used to add residence space to the school's pastoral campus off Bushy Hill Road as student housing is now at capacity, school spokeswoman Michelle Helmin said. The endowment portion of the gift is for general, unrestricted endowment, so school leaders may use the funds as they see fit to support the school's priorities, Helmin said.

The 111-year-old school is an independent, college preparatory, boarding and day school for girls in grades 6 to 12, plus a postgraduate year. The current enrollment of 247 girls is 65% boarders and 19% international students, Helmin said. Among current students, 55% receive financial aid,

The last major building project on the 175-acre campus was The Centennial Center, which opened in 2016. The facility includes an eight-lane pool, double gymnasium, dance studios, squash courts and a health and wellness center.

Board of trustees Chairwoman Katherine "Kit" O'Brien Rohn, a 1982 graduate, said the \$25 million donation "supports our belief that girls can transcend and disrupt a gendered mindset by providing an environment that is specifically designed for girls where they can flourish and excel."

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The Bennet sisters from Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice" have a new adventure in "Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley," which runs through Dec. 23 at Playhouse on Park, MEREDITH LONGO

THEATER REVIEW

Christmas at Pemberley'

A smart, charming holiday show at Playhouse on Park

By Christopher Arnott Hartford Courant

"Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley," at Playhouse on Park through Dec. 23, looks smart, acts smart and is a smart alternative to all the wacky or tacky Christmas shows that clog the theaters this month.

It's a charming return to the sort of quaint, romantic melodrama that ruled the theater world for much of the 20th century, though its roots are mainly literary.

"Christmas at Pemberley" is an audacious sequel to Jane Austen's novel "Pride and Prejudice," concentrating on the only one of the four Bennet sisters who remains unmarried at the end of the book.

Playhouse on Park staged a "Pride and Prejudice" play two years ago, just before the COVID-19 shutdown. This was the popular adaptation of Austen's book by Kate Hamill, which also got produced at New Haven's Long Wharf Theater that season. Hamill's version is a loving parody of "Pride and Prejudice" set in 1813 when the novel was published but seen through a modern lens, with actors crossing age and gender expectations to play multiple characters, a contemporary pop music score and plenty of winks at the audience.

"Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley" — by Lauren Gunderson (whose bracing feminist historical comedy "The Revolutionists" was done at Playhouse in Park in 2019) and Margot Melcon has a different style and attitude than Hamill's "Pride and Prejudice." While Playhouse on Park's production tries to link the two shows with disco music between scenes, a racially diverse cast and frisky, animated performances, the script doesn't

veer into parody or irony. It's a sweet love story, with a lot of light comedy, about Austen's endearing Bennet sisters and their romantic

foibles. Other than exaggerating the sisters' personalities, heightening conflict and using contrived plot devices like unsigned love letters ending up in the wrong hands (which, granted, Shakespeare used too), Gunderson and Melcon are using Austen's characters to further the novelist's themes of female empowerment, inner fortitude and spirited nonconformity.

This is a story of strong women getting what they want, often aided by their supportive husbands.

In paying special attention to Mary, the Bennet sister commonly described as "plain" or "bookish," and to whom the novel ascribes "a pedantic air and conceited manner," "Christmas at Pemberley" is able to flip some hoary stereotypes that Austen herself put in place. Of course, the play is still feeding into heteronormative class-based marriage fantasies in adherence to a patriarchal hegemony, but you can't have everything.

After all, "Pride and Prejudice" is the novel that begins with this line: "It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune,

must be in want of a wife." Mary's intellect and talent, it is implied, is a detriment to her finding any husband at all, let alone a soulmate. Her younger and already married sister Lydia is so oblivious to the concept that anyone could find Mary a desirable husband that when such a person appears, Lydia blithely starts flirting with him herself. That triangle consumes much of the first act. A whole different

rival for Mary arrives just before intermission. Spoiler alert: Love conquers all.

Mary and Lydia, supporting characters in Austen's book, get all the fun this time, while their sisters Elizabeth and Jane (played with extensive charm and grace by Dakota Mackey-McGee and Kristin Fulton) stroll about in the background, immaculately dressed, giving kind advice. (The fifth sister from the book, Kitty, does not make an appearance.)

Similarly, Elizabeth and Jane's husbands Mr. Darcy (Griffin Stanton-Ameisen) and Mr. Bingley (Karim Nematt) are mainly there to provide an air of decorum. If someone gets out of hand, these older, settled couples (having been married a whole two years at the time of this story) are around to gently tell them to calm

As Mary, Sydney Torres plays up the character's intelligence and confidence, but also imbues her with a wicked sense of humor. She feels misunderstood, but not in a withdrawn self-defeating way.

Mary's love interest is the boyish lord Arthur de Bourgh, an entirely new character not found in the "Pride and Prejudice" novel, and played here as a naïve, socially awkward and completely adorable young Oxford scholar by Ted Gibson.

Even a comedy of manners needs a spitfire, and Laura Axelrod as Lydia is the volatile element that upends civility so that it can neatly

get straightened out again. While most of the actors are Playhouse on Park first-timers, director Sasha Bratt has helmed numerous shows (plus a playreading series) there. He knows how to fill that wide, deep performance space with wide circular strolls, wild dashes and some lovely dancing.

Christmas is a fairly incidental part of the plot there are a lot of wisecracks about the weird German trend of decorating a pine tree inside one's house, and holiday parties are the main pretext for new characters to enter the play.

What drives the script more is the love of good literature. Mary and Arthur's relationship is based on their exuberant thirst for knowledge. They express their shared passion for reading throughout the play, cutting down the ignorant non-readers and dreaming of globetrotting adventures they plan to take based on books and maps they've read.

Mary also reads music, and when she feels shut out by others she expresses her emotions through the piano. Torres is rather convincing in these scenes, hunching her shoulders and giving wild glances while hammering at the keys at the back of the stage.

For Playhouse on Park, "Christmas at Pemberley" is a chance to brighten the holidays and give audiences the theatergoing equivalent of snuggling up with a good

"Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley" runs through Dec. 23 at Playhouse on Park, 244 Park Road, West Hartford. Performances are Tuesday at 2 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday at 7:30 p.m., Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. The Dec. 21-23 performances are all at 7:30 p.m. \$40-\$50; \$37.50-\$47.50 for students, seniors, military and Let's Go Arts members. playhouseonpark.org/.

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The holidays can be difficult for those recovering from substance abuse

A Simsbury group offers tips to help

By Don Stacom Hartford Courant

Although it's festive for so many, the Thanksgiving-Christmas-New Year's period can be a dangerous time for recovering drug addicts and alcoholics, says Daniel Millstein, director of the Farrell Treatment

Center in New Britain.

"You can think about the holidays like the Bermuda Triangle. In addiction, stress is one of the real triggers – and there can be a lot of stress in the holidays because of family relationships that you have to navigate," Millstein said Tuesday.

As a substance abuse therapist, Millstein is familiar with the twin dangers of the holiday season for addicts: anxiety or stress from being with family, or isolation from being alone.

His tips for successfully negotiating the season will be part of a panel talk Thursday evening sponsored by A Promise to Jordan, a Simsbury-based nonprofit that aids families of substance abusers. The session will also cover suggestions for how relatives, friends or roommates of drug and alcohol abusers can help them.

"For many Americans, the end of the year brings images of happy families gathered around a Christmas tree, big dinners of turkey and stuffing, holiday music and cozy fires," the organization says. "For others, the holidays can be a much darker and more difficult time — a time of family conflict, financial strain, and concerns about a family member with substance abuse disorder."

It's a message that experts have been putting out to recovering addicts, alcoholics and their families for many years: The holidays can be enjoyable, but vigilance is extra

important.

"For those that are struggling with substance use disorders, who are in recovery, be very aware that these are periods of great risk," Dr. Nora Volkow, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, said in a statement. "Because one of the factors that leads to drug-taking and to escalation of drug-taking, and to relapse, is stress.

"When you have a substance use disorder it makes you particularly vulnerable," Volkow said. "And for the relatives and friends of someone who may have a substance use disorder, my message is reach out to them, keep an eye on them, because even if you do it virtually, that human contact is invaluable."

A Promise to Jordan is the creation of Lisa

Gray, whose 24-year-old son died of an accidental drug overdose in 2018. She recruited experts and volunteers to serve in the organization to reach families struggling with addiction. The group also works at addiction prevention.

Millstein, the organization's board president, recommends substance abusers in recovery form a plan for getting through the holidays without

"One of the big problems with depression and anxiety is the isolation addiction is a very isolating phenomenon," he said. "Holidays bring out isolation. You either have the stress of dealing with family which can trigger the desire to use, or you have the isolation of not having a family and feeling alone."

He recommends addicts and alcoholics avoid isola-

"The antidote is to be involved in recovery. Recovery is about connection and being with other people," Millstein said. "Can you call someone you haven't talked with in a while and wish them a Merry Christmas? Can you go for a nice walk, see a special movie or have a special meal, do something you enjoy doing rather than thinking about what you don't have?'

For those who are concerned about being around parties or gatherings with drinking or recreational drug use during the holidays, he also recommends forming a plan.

"Come with an exit strategy, be prepared to be there for a limited period and then leave," he advised. "Bring a friend who doesn't drink or use, or a spouse or companion. Talk with a person in recovery before you go, and maybe (during the event) go out and make a

phone call. The High Watch Recovery Center in Kent suggests five strategies: "Choose your party wisely, bring a sober friend, have an escape plan, throw a sober party, attend a meeting."

Millstein also recommended holding down expectations.

Recognize that the holiday is just another day," he said. "All the holidays bring about a reckoning of 'where am I, where am I supposed to be?' Sometimes the holidays take on a significance that's greater than they should."

A Promise to Jordan's "Facing the Holidays" event will be held Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. at Covenant Presbyterian Church (The Barn), 124 Old Farms Road, Simsbury. Go to apromisetojordan. org for more information.

NEW HAVEN

Alders reject mayor's choice for police chief

Associated Press

The New Haven Board of Alders has rejected the mayor's nomination of Renee Dominguez as police chief, after some city residents raised concerns about increasing violence, low diversity in the police department and a lack of public input in the chief selection process.

Alders voted Monday night against Dominguez, who has served as acting chief since March and would be the first woman to permanently lead the city's police department. Some alders said they did not have enough information on Dominguez's plans to improve the depart-

Mayor Justin Elicker

called the decision "disappointing" and "disheartening," and said he planned to renominate Dominguez.

About 30 people at the meeting opposed Domin-guez, while about two dozen police officers attended to show their support for her, the New Haven Register reported.

Some residents and community groups, including members of Unidad Latina en Accion, announced last month that they opposed Dominguez.

Dominguez, who has served on the New Haven force since 2002, said she has worked hard for the city and plans to continue seeking the police chief's job. She would succeed Otoniel Reyes, who retired earlier this year.



PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that the Purchasing Department for the City of Bristol, Connecticut is accepting sealed responses on the following:

2A22-056 Annual Requirements for

2A22-056 Annual Requirements for Maintenance of Municipally Owned Street Lighting; bids due December 28, 2021 at 1:00 pm 2A22-057 Annual Requirements for Swimming Pool Chemicals; bids due January 4, 2022 at 1:00 pm 2A22-058 Annual Requirements for Traffic Signs and Related Materials; bids due January 4, 2022 at 2:00 pm

Sealed responses via the QuestCDN online bidding system will be accepted until the due date and time as noted above. The City reserves the right to waive informalities in bid responses, and to accept any or all bid responses, if in its judgment the best interests of the City will be served. Submission of bid documents are subject to a \$15.00 bid posting fee payable to QuestCDN, the cost of which shall be borne solely by the bidder.

The successful bidder shall not discrim nate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, gender, or national origin. The Contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed and that employees are treated during employment without regard to their race, color, religion, gender, or national origin.

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ESTATE OF David A. Lucas, Jr. (21-0707)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis. Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated Decembe 2, 2021, ordered that all claims must be cresented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Rosemary L. Nolin, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is: Paula L. Lucas, 133 Great Hammock Rd., Old Saybrook, CT 06475 12/9/21 7101459

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Janet M. Halligan Schrensky

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated December 1, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Rosemary L. Nolin, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is: Sally Heubner, 44 Wahconah Dr., Bozrah CT 06334 12/9/21 7101508

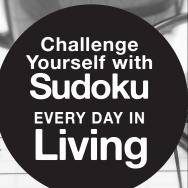
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Angeline V. Sartinsky

The Hon. Michael A. Carrier, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Berlin Probate Court, by decree dated December 6, 2021 to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim. ordered that all claims must be presented

Susan I. Meagher, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is: Michael J. Sartinsky c/o HALLEY CONNOLLY ALLAIRE, ALLAIRE ELDER LAW, LLC, 271 FARMINGTON AVE, BRISTOL, CT 06010 12/9/21 7100900





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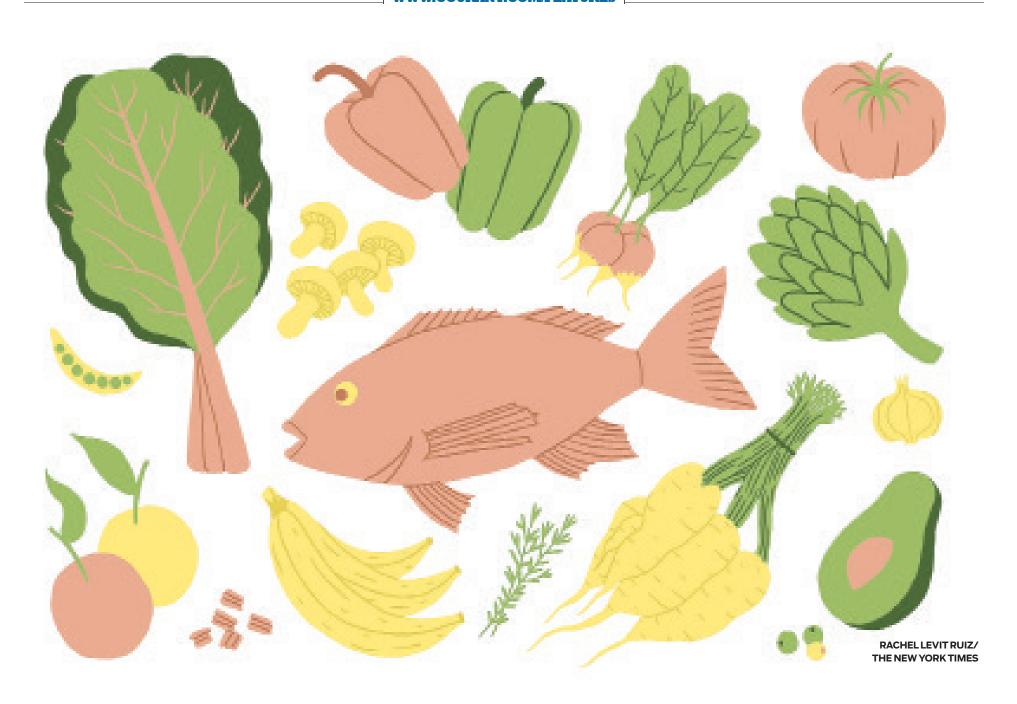
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DIETARY PATTERNS EASIER TO FOLLOW

American Heart Association tries a different approach in revised nutrition guidelines by removing emphasis on 'good' or 'bad' foods

By Jane E. Brody The New York Times

here are no "good" foods and "bad" foods. Rather, it's your overall dietary pattern that matters most when it comes to healthful

eating. That's the main message from the American Heart Association in its latest nutrition guidelines to improve the hearts and health of Americans of all ages and life circumstances.

The experts who wrote the guidelines recognize that people don't eat nutrients or individual ingredients. They eat foods, and most people want to enjoy the foods they eat while staying within their budgets and, the association hopes, without injuring their bodies.

This doesn't mean you need to totally avoid Big Macs, Cokes and French fries, but it does mean you should not regularly indulge in such fare if you want to stay healthy.

Dr. Robert H. Eckel, a former president of the American Heart Association, and an endocrinologist and lipid specialist at the University of Colorado Denver, told me he "occasionally"

indulges in foods outside a wholesome dietary pattern. The operative word here.

though, is "occasionally." Dr. Neil J. Stone, a preventive cardiologist at the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University, who praised the thoughtfulness and expertise of the guidelines committee, said, "There's no such thing as one diet that fits all, but there are principles to form the basis of diets that fit everyone."

He added: "The goal is to make good nutrition possible for all. The healthier we can keep everybody in this country, the lower our health costs will be."

In the 15 years since the heart association last issued dietary guidelines to reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease, almost nothing has changed for the better. The typical American diet has remained highly processed. Americans consume too much added sugars, arteryclogging fats, refined starches, red meat and salt and don't eat enough nutrient-rich vegetables, fruits, nuts, beans and whole grains that can help prevent heart disease, diabetes and cancer.

But rather than become discouraged, the association decided to try a different

approach. For too long, nutrition advice has been overly focused on individual nutrients and ingredients, Alice H. Lichtenstein, the guidelines' chief author, said, and it hasn't been focused enough on overall dietary patterns that can best fit people's lives and budgets.

So instead of a laundry list of "thou shalt not eats," Lichtenstein said, the association's committee on nutrition and cardiovascular disease chose to promote heart-healthy dietary patterns that could suit a wide range of tastes and eating habits. In avoiding "no noes" and dietary revolutions, the new guidelines can foster gradual evolutionary changes

meant to last a lifetime. The committee recognized that for people to adopt and stick to a wholesome dietary pattern, it should accommodate personal likes and dislikes, ethnic and cultural practices, and life circumstances, and it should consider whether most meals are consumed at home or on the go.

For example, rather than urging people to skip pasta because it's a refined carbohydrate, a more effective message might be to tell people to eat it the traditional Italian way, as a small firstcourse portion. Or, if pasta is your main course, choose a product made from an unrefined carbohydrate like whole wheat, brown rice or

"We're talking about lifelong changes that incorporate personal preferences, culinary traditions and what's available where people shop and eat," said Lichtenstein, a professor of nutrition science and policy at the Friedman School at Tufts University. "The advice is evidencebased and applies to everything people eat regardless of where the food is procured, prepared and consumed."

The guidelines' first principle is to adjust one's "energy intake and expenditure" to "achieve and maintain a healthy body weight," a recommendation that may be easier to follow with the next two principles: Eat plenty of fruits and vegetables, and choose foods made mostly with whole grains rather than refined grains. If cost or availability is an issue, as is the case in many of the country's food deserts where fresh produce is scarce, Lichtenstein suggested keeping bags of frozen fruits and vegetables on hand to reduce waste, add convenience and save

Some wholesome protein choices that the committee recommended included fish and seafood (although not breaded and fried), legumes and nuts, and low-fat or fat-free dairy products. If meat is desired, choose lean cuts and refrain from processed meats like sausages, hot dogs and deli meats that are high in salt and saturated fat.

The committee advised shifting one's diet away from tropical oils - coconut, palm and palm kernel — as well as animal fats (butter and lard) and partially hydrogenated fats (read the nutrition label). Instead, use liquid plant oils like corn, soybean, safflower, sunflower, canola, nut and olive. They have been shown to lower the risk of cardiovascular disease by about 30%, an effect comparable to taking a statin drug.

The dietary patterns that the committee outlined can go far beyond reducing the risk of cardiovascular diseases like heart attacks and strokes. They can also protect against Type 2 diabetes and a decline of kidney function, and perhaps even help foster better cognitive abilities and a slower rate of age-related cognitive decline.

"There's no such thing as one diet that fits all, but there are principles to form the basis of diets that fit everyone. The goal is to make good nutrition possible for all. The healthier we can keep everybody in this country, the lower our

health costs will be." — Dr. Neil J. Stone, a preventive cardiologist at the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University

Research links COVID during pregnancy with higher chance of stillbirths

By Lindsey Tanner Associated Press

Pregnant women with COVID-19 face increased chances for stillbirths compared with uninfected women, and that risk spiked to four times higher after the delta variant emerged, new government data show.

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently released a report that examined 1.2 million

deliveries in 736 hospitals nationwide from March 2020 through September 2021

Stillbirths were rare overall, totaling 8,154 among all deliveries. But the researchers found that for women with COVID-19. about 1 in 80 deliveries resulted in stillbirth. Among the uninfected, it was 1 in 155.

Among those with COVID-19, stillbirths were more common in people with chronic high blood

pressure and other complications, including those in intensive care or on breath-

ing machines 'These findings underscore the importance of COVID-19 prevention strategies, including vaccination before or during pregnancy," CDC researcher Carla DeSisto and co-authors said.

Pregnant people with COVID-19 are more likely than others to develop severe - even fatal illness, and they face

increased risks for preterm birth and other complications. Previous studies on stillbirths and COVID-19 had mixed findings, but the report bolsters concerns among obstetricians and

anecdotal data. Some experts have speculated that the virus may cause inflammation in the placenta or other abnormalities that could harm the fetus.

Dr. Joseph Biggio, a specialist in high-risk pregnancies in New Orleans,

said the study doesn't prove that COVID-19 caused stillbirths. He said it's possible some women were so critically ill that physicians trying to keep them alive "couldn't intervene on behalf of a fetus that they knew was in trouble."

The researchers relied on medical records, and they noted that they were unable to determine if the COVID-19 diagnoses listed at the time of delivery represented current or past infections.



DREAMSTIME

West, Drake concert to air on Prime

From news services

Kanye West is set to perform in his first headlining show in five years at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum on Thursday. The Free Larry Hoover benefit concert, which will feature a special guest appearance by Drake. will be free to stream on Amazon Prime Video in more than 240 countries and territories across the world, Amazon Music and Prime Video announced Tuesday evening.

The live stream of the Free Larry Hoover benefit concert will also be available to view on the Amazon Music app and the Amazon Music Twitch channel. The concert will be available to view on-demand through Prime Video following the live event.

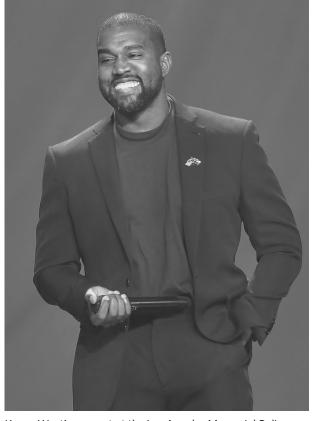
In addition to being available through Amazon's services, the concert will also be live-streamed in IMAX theaters across the U.S. for a one-night-only IMAX Live event.

Tickets are now available for purchase on IMAX's official website.

The concert is intended to raise awareness for Larry Hoover's incarceration and garner support for prison and sentencing reform.

'Walker' preview in the works: The Jared Padal-ecki-fronted "Walker" on The CW is about to achieve "universe" status. Padalecki will executive produce a "Walker" origin story entitled "Walker: Independence," along with story co-writers Seamus Fahey and Anna Fricke via Pursued By a Bear Productions.

Fahey will also write the teleplay for "Walker: Independence" and will continue to executive produce the flagship series. Also executive producing the prequel are Laura



Kanye West's concert at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum will stream on Amazon Prime Video. MICHAEL WYKE/AP 2019

Terry via Pursued by a Bear, and Rideback CEO Dan Lin and EVP Lindsey Liberatore.

'Jeopardy' hosts to stay: It was announced Wednesday that Mayim Bialik and Ken Jennings will be hosting the long-running game show through its 38th season.

"We are delighted to let you know that Mayim Bialik and Ken Jennings will continue to share hosting duties through the end of Jeopardy! Season 38, and Michael Davies will remain as executive producer," Sony said in a statement. "We're so pleased to have such an excellent and experienced team in front of and behind the camera as we head into 2022!"

Cannon's 5-year-old son dies: Nick Cannon revealed Tuesday his 5-month-old son, Zen, died Sunday following a battle with brain cancer.

The entertainer made the announcement on his eponymous daytime talk program.

Zen, whom Cannon welcomed with model Alyssa Scott in June, was diagnosed with a brain tumor, with fluid building up in the child's head. The illness quickly escalated around Thanksgiving, and Cannon, whose show is recorded in New York, went to California to see his son.

Dec. 9 birthdays: Actor Judi Dench is 87. Actor Beau Bridges is 80. Singer Joan Armatrading is 71. Actor Michael Dorn is 69. Actor John Malkovich is 68. Singer Donny Osmond is 64. Actor Allison Smith is 52. Singer Imogen Heap is 44. Actor Jesse Metcalfe is 43. Actor Jolene Purdy is 38. Actor Ashleigh Brewer is 31.



ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Physician suspects grandniece has autism

Dear Amy: I am a physician and live far away from my

My niece has a 3-yearold daughter.

Between distance and COVID-19, I have seen my grandniece only rarely.

About six months ago, while I was visiting, my family united at my sister's house. Our cousin is a speech pathologist and is familiar with signs of autism.

She recognized specific signs in my grandniece, but she refused to share that with my niece because of a lack of intimacy between them.

My family debated whether we should bring this up with my niece, and ultimately her mother told her about our concerns.

It did not go well: It was viewed as an invasion of privacy and as ill-intentioned negativity.

Since then, we understand the child is in speech therapy. Otherwise, we are not aware that there is any effort being made to address the issue, and both parents contribute to the denial and wall of privacy.

In family gatherings, when my grandniece doesn't engage, it is brushed off as "she likes to be in her own world."

Since I am a physician (but not with relevant experience), I struggle with whether I should discuss this with my niece and her husband, and if so, how to approach them.

Concerned Uncle

Dear Concerned: Your family's concern — and your sister's choice to convey it to her daughter — has not backfired. The parents may have reacted poorly and defensively, but

the child is seeing a speech therapist and that is a positive first step.

However, your family members should not put these parents in a defensive crouch by judging their child's behavior and diagnosing her during brief holiday visits.

As a physician and the child's great-uncle, you are in an ideal position to continue to express interest in this young girl's development.

You can do this through supportive questions posed to the parents. Start by noting positive aspects: "Look at how well she's growing. Six months makes such a big difference!"

Then you can consider taking it further: "My sister said she's seeing a speech therapist. What's that like? How do you think it's going?" You might then add, "Have you ever run this past cousin Rachel? You know that she is a speech pathologist. She might be helpful if you have questions."

If you present yourself as a supportive, interested and objective family member, these parents might utilize you as a resource.

Dear Amy: My husband has been involved with a former college classmate (female) who he reconnected with at a reunion a couple of years ago.

They are in touch every weekend, sometimes texting back and forth for hours. When I have expressed alarm about this, he offers to show me their text exchanges, but I don't want to start a fight.

Then he accuses me of

not trusting him. Can you help me find a way out?

— Upset

Dear Upset: Take your husband up on his offer to view his text exchanges.

Also, because you don't seem to trust him, his accusation is correct.

You should be brave enough to risk discovering whatever answers emerge from discussing this with your husband.

Dear Amy: Responding to the letter from "Totally Confused Mom," whose adult daughters have turned on her, people today in their 20s and 30s all seem to have mental stress, trauma, anxiety and, of course, the source of their problems is always their parents!

Well, blame has to be assigned somewhere and who better than the people who gave them all they could and would do anything for them?

How about we look at the other possible source for all the problems: too much screen time, less human interaction, more time to invent problems and then, blame parents.

Parents are not wrong all the time. How about we sometimes ask the young people in their 20s and 30s to grow up and act like adults, and stop blaming others?

Now I dare you to blame the parents!

— Very Frustrated

Dear Frustrated: Who raised all of these tender softies?

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Henry Lawfull in "A Boy Called Christmas." **NETFLIX/STUDIOCANAL**

Consider inviting these new specials home for the holidays

By Neal Justin Star Tribune

George Bailey and the "Peanuts" gang make great holiday guests. But their behavior can get a bit predictable. I'd never suggest abandoning old friends, but you might want to consider also inviting these newer treats into your home.

'Santa Inc.': This eightpart series uses the same stop-motion animation approach we loved in such Rankin/Bass classics as "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer." But the language has more in common with "South Park." Sarah Silverman voices the elf who will do just about anything to become the first female Santa Claus. HBO Max

'A Boy Called Christmas': There have been a lot of stories about the origins of Santa Claus, but few are as enchanting as this one that plays out like a holiday version of "The Princess Bride." Kids and parents will love it. Netflix

'Robin Robin': The studio behind "Wallace & Gromit" offers this short and sweet tale about a bird that dreams about being a mouse. Gillian Anderson proves to be just as menacing as the voice of a hungry cat as she was playing Margaret Thatcher in "The Crown." Netflix

'Carol of the Bells': Every episode of "Ted Lasso" delivers its fair share of goodwill but this special Christmas edition from the second season is extra optimistic. Watching Rebecca skip an Elton John bash to hand out gifts and Higgins throw the ultimate house party will cure any holiday blues. Apple TV+

'Baking It': Andy Samberg and Maya Rudolph host this spinoff of "Making It" in which contestants show off mouthwatering cookies, cupcakes and other sinful treats. *Peacock*

'8-Bit Christmas': Fans of "A Christmas Story" will get a kick out of this tale about an '80s kid who dreams about getting a Nintendo set. His parents worry video games will do more damage than shooting his eye out. *HBO Max*

'Happiest Season': This film actually came out last year, but it's charming enough to deserve another push. Kristen Stewart plays a woman who bonds with her future in-laws during the holidays. One tiny problem: Their daughter hasn't told them she's gay. Hulu

'Hot Mess Holiday': You expect saris and Bolly-wood dancing in a film that revolves around Diwali. Instead the references to sex parties and a jewel heist shatter most of those stereotypes. Kal Penn and Lilly Singh are among the high profile Desis making cameos. Dec. 11, Comedy Central

'Mariah's Christmas: The Magic Continues': Mariah Carey has one of the best-selling holiday songs of all time — and one of the kookiest holiday specials. Let's hope this sequel to her 2020 offering will be just as magical. Apple TV+

'Home Sweet Home
Alone': The franchise
marches on, this time with
a rascally British kid and a
few cameos from "Saturday Night Live" veterans.
Our abandoned "hero"
goes up against a financially strapped couple
who are way too sweet to
be subjected to the little
monster's abuse. Disney+

HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19): It's a good day to move out of the fast lane and let yourself coast along at a gentler speed. Solitude this morning gifts you with an opportunity to rest up and enjoy some quiet time to rejuvenate. You'll need your engines full.

Taurus (April 20-May 20):Your connections with others become a higher priority today. This is a reminder that sometimes you need to put work on the backburner to make time for the people you care about. Make an effort to reach out, especially if anyone has drifted beyond your sphere lately.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Your working life gets a jolt today, helping you make the right moves that can lead to success. Hit the ground running and be ready to show people what you can do at a moment's notice! There's a chance you'll have the opportunity to impress a VIP or boss, and you can pass this test with flying colors.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): You have a lot of support to expand your world today, whether it's literally or figuratively. Turn on the invisible light bulb over your head. Do something to broaden your views, whether its opening up a book or making plans for a trip that will expose you to new experiences.

prepared to turn inward and take a good, hard look at yourself, Leo. You're probably not in a light-hearted or easygoing mood. It's a good day to cut through the fat to get to the heart of any pressing matters. Address personal shortcomings or issues in connecting with others.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22):Be

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): When it comes to your most important connections, it's time to think less along the lines of "me" and more along "we." If you've been favoring yourself and your own needs while leaving your supporters out in the cold, a recalibration is in order. This is a day to get back on the same page.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Your attention is being drawn toward your own health and well-being today, and you have the support to take some positive steps toward feeling better. Look around your life at the details and see how you can make small adjustments for big improvements. Make some really clever fixes.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Some barriers around you are being lifted today, giving you more opportunity to enjoy the world around you. Do something that brings a smile to your face. Whether that means a hobby, hanging out with friends, or going somewhere you enjoy, make it a point to meet your needs.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):Reconnecting with your roots could create a lot of fulfillment, for you today. Think about where you come from and examine how your early stages turned you into the person you are now. If you can, spend some time catch-

ing up with a parent or a

sibling.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Life picks up the pace today. Fortunately, your sign tends to stay on top of things without much effort, but an extra bit of effort might be required nonetheless. There's a lot coming your way, but if you can stay focused and methodical, you'll be able to handle it all.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): It's a good day to get back to basics, especially when it comes to matters of money and material security. Go through your recent spending and make sure you've been crossing every T and dotting every I because something might have slipped through the cracks. Cancel that subscription.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Have you been making enough time for yourself? If your desires have been getting pushed to the side, then you need to recalibrate and ensure that you're giving yourself the attention you deserve. Don't think of "me time" as selfish — you need it in order to be at your best.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

On Dec. 9, 1962, the Petrified Forest in Arizona was designated a national park.

In 1965, "A Charlie Brown Christmas," the first animated TV special featuring characters from the "Peanuts" comic strip by Charles M. Schulz, premiered on CBS.

In 1987, the first Palestinian intifada, or uprising, began as riots broke out in Gaza and spread to the West Bank, triggering a strong Israeli response.

In 1992, Britain's Prince Charles and Princess Diana announced their separation. In 2013, scientists revealed that NASA's Curiosity rover had uncovered signs of an ancient freshwater lake on Mars.

In 2014, U.S. Senate investigators concluded the United States had brutalized scores of terror suspects with interrogation tactics that did nothing to make Americans safer after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

BONUS PUZZLE PAGE

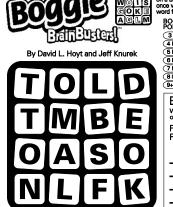
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BOGGLE



INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words. YOUR BOGGLE RATING

BOGGLE POINT SCALE 6 letters = 4 points 7 letters = 6 points 9+ letters = 15 points

RATING 1151+ = Champ 101-150 = Expert 61-100 = Pro 31-60 = Gamer 21-30 = Rookie 11-20 = Amateur 0-10 = Try again

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BED DESK SOFA TABLE OTTOMAN

Insert the missing letter to complete an eight-letter word reading clockwise or counterclockwise. TOLERANT

WORD SEARCH

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, or diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them. INCIPYEBYGKHWSON REDNETDRNELSMOMER NQNNYEEITGI IMRAWK RMGATANRA В BHMEKTRAENG Ρ BNТВ A H N PΕ S EHCEOORRN MRAT ESELOPGTREIEYPHCS LGPUWTS TEEN Т TLROASDOCFA IHHOARLA I D R L AZP ТТ E W TPXHEBW ELTG F RDBPUSETALOC 0 RKHAOFFSPR Ν G D EKACUEHCRA ANTNARUATSEREHTOM

MOTHER'S DAY

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CHERISH

CHILDREN

MOTHER'S DAY

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COFFEE **DAUGHTER** DINNER **FAMILY FLOWERS GIFT** HELP

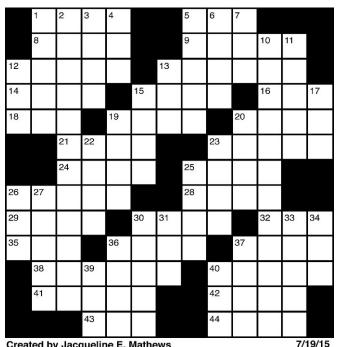
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- Valance"; James Stewart movie
- 9 "Lady and the __"
 12 Sean Connery and David McCallum
- 13 "__ Weapon"; Danny Glover film
 14 "__ Rock"; Simon & Garfunkel hit
 15 "Jimmy Kimmel __!"
 16 "This Is Spinal __"; Rob Reiner

- movie
- 18 Mexican Mrs. 19 Garroway, once of NBC's
- "Today"
- 20 Singer James
- 21 Tater
- 23 Role on "I Love Lucy"
- 24 "The __ Wife" 25 Not bananas
- 26 Journeys 28 "Win, Lose or
- 29 Lowe and Morrow
- 30 "The __ Housewives of Beverly Hills'



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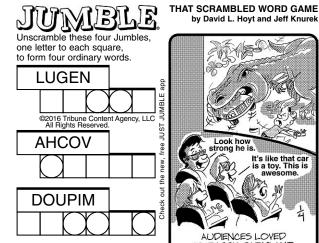
- 32 Singer and bandleader Calloway 35 Pacino and Molinaro
- 36 "The Incredible
- 37 Prefix for medic or legal 38 Chris __ of "Private Practice" 40 Actor Gary __
- 41 Pitfall
- 42 Sherman Hemsley sitcom 43 Distress signal
- 44 Actress Rudolph of "Up All Night"

DOWN

- "Sesame Street" grouch Actor on "Criminal Minds"
- Smidgen Nov. 1 honorees Martin or Carell
- Johnson of "Laugh-In"
- 7 __-jongg; game played with tiles 10 Role on "Chicago Fire" 11 Piece of china
- 12 Ashley, to Mary-Kate 13 Actress Ullmann
- 15 Alan or Diane
- 17 Buddy
- 19 Singing couples 20 Mount __; Sicilian volcano 22 George Segal's role on "The
- Goldbergs"
 23 "My Name Is _
- 25 Pierre's place: abbr. 26 Refrain syllable
- 27 Cinnamon ___; sweet-smelling breakfast pastries 30 "__ of Engagement" 31 Perpendicular building wing
- 33 Stadium 34 "Harold & Kumar Escape from
- Guantanamo ___"
 36 "Last Action ___"; Arnold
- 37 Wild feline
- Schwarzenegger movie

- 40 Word from Emeril

JUMBLE



"JURASSIC PARK" AND THOUGHT IT WAS ----**TEPICO** Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon. Answer

Jumbles: LUNGE HAVOC PODIUM POETIC

Answer: Audiences loved "Jurassic Park" and thought "DINO-MIGHT"

ARROW WORDS

S U B

BEGINNING

URGE

|M|E|A|N|S|

T R E E

|B|B|K|||N|G|

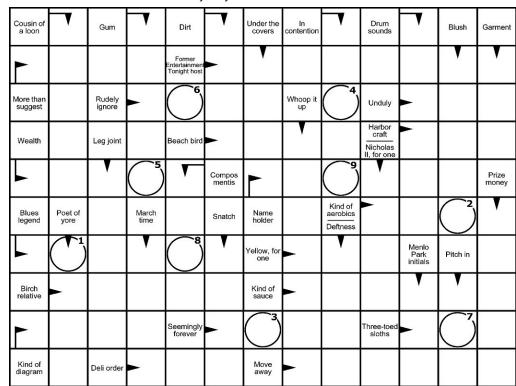
ALDER

S N U B

TE

D

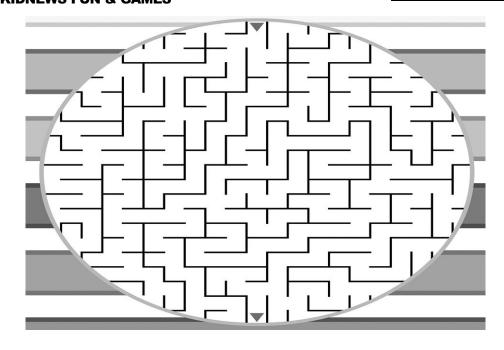
Fill in the grid using the clues provided in the direction of the arrows. When complete, unscramble the letters in the circles to reveal a mystery word.

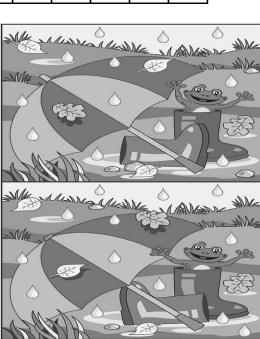


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2 3 6 8 9 5

KIDNEWS FUN & GAMES





Find the ten differences between the two pictures.

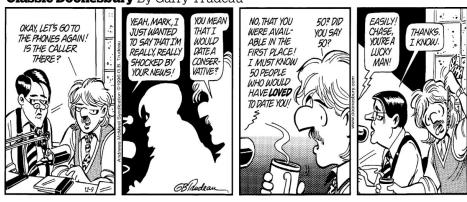
10/19/19



Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz



Classic Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau



Garfield By Jim Davis







Dustin By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker



Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis





Arctic Circle By Alex Hallatt



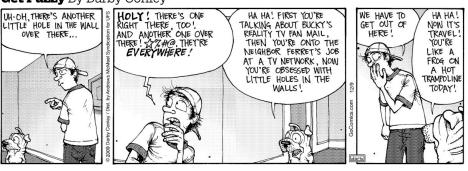




Jump Start By Robb Armstrong



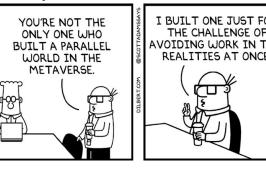
Get Fuzzy By Darby Conley



Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



Dilbert By Scott Adams



I BUILT ONE JUST FOR THE CHALLENGE OF AVOIDING WORK IN TWO REALITIES AT ONCE.

YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND MY MINDSET BECAUSE YOU'VE PROBABLY **NEVER BEEN** SUPER-GOOD AT ANYTHING.

Gil Thorp By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin



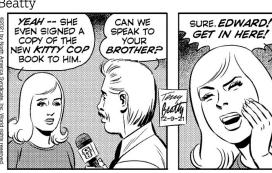


Mary Worth By Karen Moy and June Brigman



Rex Morgan, M.D. By Terry Beatty



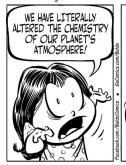


Judge Parker By Woody Wilson and Mike Manley





Baldo By Cantu and Castellanos



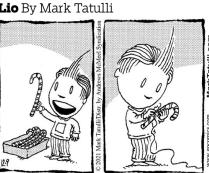








Lio By Mark Tatulli





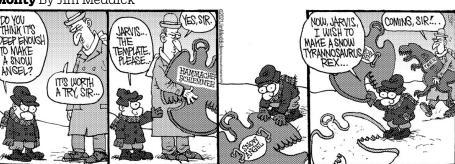
Wizard Of Id By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker



Rhymes With Orange By Hilary Price

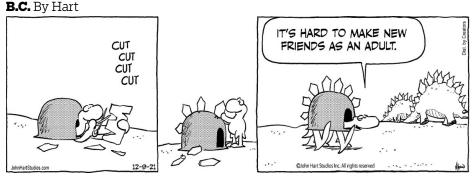


Monty By Jim Meddick



For Better Or For Worse By Lynn Johnston





Beetle Bailey by Mort, Greg & Brian Walker





Hagar The Horrible By Chris Browne





Non Sequitur By Wiley Miller



Curtis By Ray Billingsley









Pickles By Brian Crane



Zits By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman







Rose Is Rose By Pat Brady and Don Wimmer





Mother Goose And Grimm By Mike Peters



EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

Across 1 Guttural

- interruption 5 Hook or Kirk: Abbr.
- Logician's "E" 13 Rope fiber
- 15 Confidently say 16 Earned
- Vintage hue on a photo app Digital media
- 18 brand Plains people
- 20 Often euphemistic words for lacking employment
- _-pitch softball 25 I-5 state 26 Liberia neighbor
- Manhattan attraction
- Petri dish gels
- 32 Former Romanian
- president 36 Buster
- Brown's dog Flat sign Alternatively
- 41 Mosaic piece 43 Pricing word that
- rhymes with its opposite 44 Rounding third base
- starting at second, say Axis foes

after

- Guffaw sound 52 Cue
- preceder? 53 Just plain folks
- Cream additive
- 58 It may be wild Union 59
- station? Midday refreshers

CROSSWORD

- 63 Inland Asian sea 10 Betray 64 Hospital cry 65 "Time spent
 - with __ is never wasted": Colette 14
- 66 P.D. ranks 67 Thai money

Down

- 1 Jenny's offspring 23 2 Hustle, quaintly 3 Threat to
- national security Water

"Breaking Bad"

- bad guys 6 Swear
- Short dog, for short
- 8 1969 film remade in 2010 with Jeff Bridges
- role
- e.g.
- in John Wayne's
- Smiley face with hearts for eyes,
- / Her infinite
- variety' 35
 - "I can help"

 - **Buzz-creating** promo

11 Sun-dried brick

time

24 Kosher

e.g.

33 Genesis son

34 The "her" in

22 Zap

28

30

12 Thompson of "Westworld"

Shoo relative

_chic!"

Dish from which

paella evolved

Sierra Nevada,

Shakespeare's

wither her, nor

"Age cannot

custom stale

- Hercules' dozen
- 21 Historic 45 Slangy
 - walking 46 Swiss river

38 The NBA's

Magic

40 Duel tool

42 Kid-lit poet

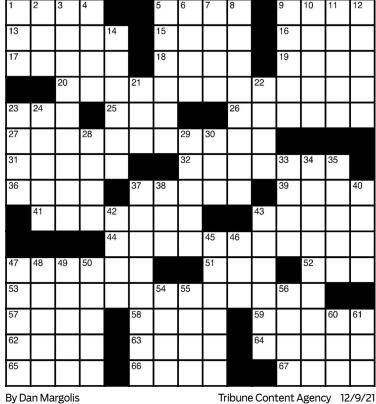
Silverstein

43 Iraqi neighbor

- 47 Range name

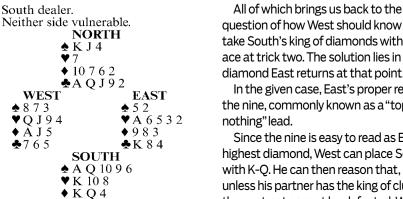
alternative to

- 48 New Hampshire
- state flower 49 Parkinson's
- treatment
- 50 Latin "in other words"
- 54 Suffix for the rich
- 55 Future doc's
- exam
- 56 Black card,
- maybe 60 Bat wood
- 61 No longer working:
- Abbr.



BRIDGE

BY STEVE BECKER



North

East

Pass

Pass

4 🛧 Opening lead — queen of hearts. A crucial defensive

♣10 3

West

Pass

Pass

The bidding:

South

2 NT

measure A recurring problem encountered by the defenders is the question of when to take an opposing king with the ace.

This dilemma can arise in many situations, and the solution depends entirely on the particular circumstances of that deal.

Consider this case where West leads the queen of hearts against four spades. East takes the ace and shifts to a diamond, on which declarer plays the king. The question is whether West should take his ace or allow the king to hold.

As can be seen, if West wins the trick, the defense collapses. West cannot continue diamonds without allowing dummy's ten to become a trick, while if West switches to another suit, declarer has time to establish dummy's clubs for a diamond discard.

However, if West ducks the diamond return at trick two, South is helpless. Sooner or later East gains the lead with the king of clubs, and his diamond return allows Yesterday's West to score the A-J for down one.

question of how West should know not to take South's king of diamonds with the ace at trick two. The solution lies in which diamond East returns at that point. In the given case, East's proper return is

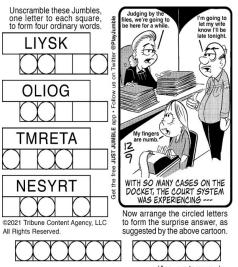
the nine, commonly known as a "top-ofnothing" lead.

Since the nine is easy to read as East's highest diamond, West can place South with K-Q. He can then reason that, unless his partner has the king of clubs, the contract cannot be defeated. West therefore refuses to take the first diamond in the hope that East will eventually gain the lead for the killing diamond return.

But, if East leads the diamond three at trick two — implying some strength in the suit — West would have no choice but to take his ace and return a diamond, thereby handing declarer the contract.

> Tomorrow: Test your play. **JUMBLE**

BY DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK



Jumbles: HABIT

TODAY'S SUDOKU

					J .		"		IOV	•			
6		5	3			8			in b				
2					1			5	gie visi				
		7				3						ısı	
4								6	P		_	O	
			_						7	8	9	4	2
		3		2		17			1	2	5	9	7
				_		_			4	3	6	1	8
			9					7	9	1	8	5	3
			J					'	2	6	7	8	4
		6			5	4		3	3	5	4	6	1
		ט			J	Ť		J	8	7	1	2	5
1	7		2						5	9	2	3	6
1	/		4			l			6	4	3	7	9

Complete the grid so each nd 3-by-3 box s) contains 9. For stratesolve Sudoku. doku.org.uk

-	P						TC JZ		E
	7	8	9	4	2	6	3	5	1
	1	2	5	9	7	3	4	8	6
	4	3	6	1	8	5	9	2	7
	9	1	8	5	3	7	2	6	4
	2	6	7	8	4	9	1	3	5
	3	5	4	6	1	2	8	7	9
	8	7	1	2	5	4	6	9	3
	5	9	2	3	6	1	7	4	8
	6	4	3	7	9	8	5	1	2

EMPTYSUITS C B S P E E R S O B E S E OODYTWOSHOES S R O M A S

QUEEN

As the noisy kids grabbed slices of the pizza,

mom asked for - "PIECE" AND QUIET

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS CROSSWORD PUZZLE

DRENCH

PURIFY











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 - → Holiday photo contest → Kid's fun corner
 - + Recipe contest + Plus much more



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SPORTS

COURANT.COM/SPORTS

UCONN WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

A new reality

Team adapting to playing without Bueckers — and now Mühl — for the foreseeable future

By Dom Amore and Alexa Philippou Hartford Courant

When it rains, it pours.

Three days after UConn women's basketball star Paige Bueckers suffered a tibial plateau fracture that will sideline her for six to eight weeks, the Huskies received more bad news Wednesday. They will be without their other point guard, Nika Mühl, for approximately three weeks due to a nagging foot issue.

The Mühl development came as a surprise from onlookers, but coach Geno Auriemma said the program is trying to be cautious to prevent the reaction she's experiencing in her foot from becoming worse.

"How quickly people heal, it depends on each individual," Auriemma said. "That's going to be the determining factor [in how quickly Mühl returns] really"

With freshman Azzi Fudd

Turn to Injuries, Page 4

Up next



UConn at Georgia Tech 7 p.m., ESPN2

■ Inside: Breaking down tonight's matchup. Page 4



Dom Amore

Auriemma faces his toughest challenge in years

UConn women's basketball coach Geno Auriemma is never at a loss for words and rarely caught short of solutions. But as he got to campus on Wednesday, still processing the news of Paige Bueckers' knee injury, he learned that backup guard Nika Mühl was added to the growing list of injured players that also includes Azzi Fudd and Aubrey Griffin.

That's a lot of problems to solve at one time, even for a coach with 11 national championships.

"A real gut punch," he said.
"I would say probably as difficult as any day I could remember. The last couple of days
have been really, really difficult on the entire program."

The recent news forced Auriemma to look back on the many great UConn players who have gone down with devastating injuries like Shea Ralph, Sue Bird and Svetlana

Turn to Amore, Page 4

WEST VIRGINIA 56, NO. 15 UCONN MEN 53

Power shortage



UConn guard R.J. Cole, center, is defended by West Virginia guards Taz Sherman, left, and Kedrian Johnson on Wednesday. KATHLEEN BATTEN/AP

Down two stars, Huskies lose low-scoring affair to Mountaineers

By Shreyas Laddha Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — Sometimes you need to do more of the little things

to win.

Down two stars in a hostile environment, UConn lost a heartbreaker 56-53 to West Virginia in a Big East-Big 12 Battle game on Wednesday at West Virginia Coli-

seum.
Taz Sherman led West Virginia
in scoring with 23 points, including
3-for-6 from three.

Isaiah Whaley lead all UConn scorers with 15 points on 7-for-10 shooting from the field.'

The Huskies came into the game

missing two of their three leading rebounders in sophomore forward Adama Sanogo and senior guard Tyrese Martin. Martin (wrist) and Sanogo (abdominal strain) are out multiple weeks with injuries. Both are among the top five on the team

in points, rebounds and blocks.
Against a raucous West Virginia crowd, their absence was sorely missed at pivotal moments. UConn struggled to find the right shot multiple times, leading to multiple shot clock violations. UConn's season scoring leader R.J Cole struggled without their presence on offense, finishing with 14 points *Turn to UConn*, Page 5



Dan Hurley reacts during the first half Wednesday in Morgantown, W.Va. **KATHLEEN BATTEN/AP**

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

A bell, a ram and names from the past

Rockville coach instills sense of history and pride in team playing for 1st state title in 26 years

By Lori Riley Hartford Courant

VERNON — The names on the football jerseys — Romanowski, Mikulski — were from the past. The Rockville High seniors wore

them Tuesday at practice, drawing some inspiration from the Rockville players that came before them while preparing for the program's first state championship game in

It's not surprising, considering the Rams — who will face Killingly in the Class M championship at Veterans Stadium in New Britain on Saturday at 3 p.m. — are coached by Rockville High history teacher Erick Knickerbocker. He grew up in nearby Ellington and was aware

of the glory days of Rockville football. He remembered Bill Romanowski, a 1984 Rockville graduate who played in the NFL for 16 years and went to four Super Bowls. He knew about quarterback Steve Mikulski's 1-yard pass to Mike Leary with 37 seconds left in the 1990 Class L state final when the Rams won their last championship.

When Knickerbocker was hired in 2018, his players were coming

Turn to Rockville, Page 6

High school football championships

All games on Saturday At Veterans Stadium, New Britain

Class L: No. 5 Windsor (11-1) vs. No. 3 Maloney (11-1), 11 a.m.
Class M: No. 2 Rockville (10-2) vs. No. 1 Killingly (11-0), 3 p.m.
At Trumbull High
Class S: No. 2 Cromwell/
Portland (12-0) vs. No. 1
Bloomfield (12-0), 11 a.m.
Class LL: No. 3 Darien (11-1) vs. No. 1 Fairfield Prep (11-1), 3 p.m.

Safety Tip of the Day

Homes should look occupied, even when no one is home.

Consider programming lamps and the TV to turn on at times when homes are normally active.



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UP NEXT

Patriots: Bye; at Colts, Dec. 18, 8:15 p.m. Giants: at Chargers, Sunday, 4:05 p.m. Jets: Saints, Sunday,

UConn MBB: Never Forget Tribute Classic: vs. St. Bonaventure (Newark, N.J.), Saturday, 3:30 p.m.; Providence (XL), Dec. 18, 5 p.m.; at Marquette, Dec. 21, 9 p.m. **UConn WBB:** at Georgia Tech, Thursday, 7 p.m.; Never Forget Tribute Classic: vs. UCLA (Newark, N.J.), Saturday, 1 p.m.; Basketball HoF Women's Showcase: vs. Louisville (Mohegan Sun),

Dec. 19, 3:30 p.m. Celtics: at Suns, Friday, 10 p.m.; Bucks, Monday, 7:30 p.m.; Warriors, Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m.

Knicks: at Raptors, Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Bucks, Sunday, noon; Warriors, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.

Nets: at Hawks, Friday, 7:30 p.m.; at Pistons, Sunday, 6 p.m.; Raptors, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.

UConn hockey: at Harvard, Jan. 2, 7 p.m.; at Boston Coll., Jan. 8. 4 p.m.; Boston Univ., Jan. 14, 7 p.m.

Bruins: at Oilers,

Thursday, 9 p.m.; at Flames, Saturday, 10 p.m.; Knights, Tuesday, 7 p.m. Rangers: at Sabres, Friday, 7 p.m.; Predators, Sunday, 7 p.m.; at Avalanche, Tuesday,

Wolf Pack: at Lehigh Valley, Sunday, 3 p.m.; Lehigh Valley, Dec. 17, 7 p.m.; at Springfield, Dec. 18, 7 p.m.

TV/RADIO

AUTO RACING 4:25 a.m.: Formula 1 Racing Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, Practice 1. (Same-

day Tape) ESPNU **BASKETBALL** 6:30 p.m.: Texas at Seton Hall. (Live) FS1 7 p.m.: Women's College:

UConn at Georgia Tech. (Live), ESPN2 7 p.m.: Womens College: DePaul at Kentucky. (Live) SEC

7 p.m.: Utah Jazz at Philadelphia 76ers. (Live)

8 p.m.: Colgate at Pittsburgh. (Live) ACC 8:30 p.m.: Monmouth at St. Johns. (Live) FS1 9 p.m.: lowa at lowa State. (Live) ESPN2 12 a.m.: UConn at West Virginia. (Taped) ESPNU

FOOTBALL 8 p.m.: Pittsburgh Steelers at Minnesota Vikings. (Live) FOX/NFL

GOLF 7 p.m.: 2021 Spirit

International. (Same-day Tape) GOLF HOCKEY

9 p.m.: Boston Bruins at Edmonton Oilers. (Live), NESN **TENNIS**

6 a.m.: ATP Tennis Florianópolis-ATP Challenger, Maia-ATP Challenger, Early Rounds & Doubles Quarterfinals. (Live) TENNIS

2:30 p.m.: ATP Tennis Florianópolis-ATP Challenger, Early Rounds. (Live) TENNIS **VOLLEYBALL**

11 a.m.: Womens College } NCAA Tournament -- BYU at Purdue. (Live) ESPNU 1 p.m.: Womens College: NCAA Tournament -Florida at Louisville. (Live)

ESPNU 3 p.m.: Womens College: NCAA Tournament -Minnesota at Baylor. (Live) ESPNU

5 p.m.: Womens College: NCAA Tournament -UCLA at Wisconsin. (Live) **FSPNU**

7:30 p.m.: Womens College: NCAA Tournament - Washington at Texas. (Live) ESPNU 9:30 p.m.: Womens College: NCAA Tournament - Illinois at Nebraska. (Live) ESPNU



The Pacers' Caris LeVert shoots over the Knicks' Immanuel Quickley during the first half Wednesday in Indianapolis. DARRON CUMMINGS/AP

Pacers players New York could ponder before the trade deadline

By Stefan Bondy New York Daily News

The Knicks have had a good look this

season at potential trade targets.
The Pacers are finally prepared to blow up their largely failed roster construction, leaving the impression they will part with either Caris LeVert and either Domantas Sabonis or Myles Turner, according to The Athletic.

With the Dame Lillard saga in Portland likely to drag into the summer and the Sixers threatening years of hardball with Ben Simmons, Indiana represents the most obvious path to significantly upgrading rosters.

Predictably, Pacers coach Rick Carlisle downplayed the urgency of dealing his best talent, chalking up the losing season to problems other than his players.

'We're all disappointed, but we all know that the way this league is, when things are tough, you're never that far from being on track or vice versa," Carlise told Indy reporters. "I'm an hour-to-hour, day-to-day guy. I like this roster. These guys are wonderful people, damn good players. We've had some bad luck with different things.'

Still, it hasn't worked. The Pacers were projected as a playoff team but entered Wednesday's matchup against the Knicks as one of the league's most disappointing developments. They split the first two games with the Knicks this season (not counting their preseason matchup) and were 10-16 before the rubber match at Gainbridge Fieldhouse.

The belief is Indiana wants to rebuild rather than retool, desiring prospects, picks and/or expiring contracts over equal talent in a swap. The Knicks own multiple young intriguing pieces — headlined by RJ Barrett, and including Obi Toppin, Immanuel Quickley and Mitchell Robinson — plus four firstround picks in the next two years.

Late Tuesday

Lakers 117, Celtics 102: At Los Angeles, LeBron James scored 30 points, Russell Westbrook added 24 points and 11 assists, and the Lakers beat Boston in the latest chapter of the NBA's most storied rivalry.

Anthony Davis had 17 points and 16 rebounds for the Lakers, who produced one of their best recent performances in their fourth victory in six games overall. With James and Westbrook playing dominant floor games, Los Angeles made 56.5% of its shots in the first three quarters and throttled Jayson Tatum's supporting cast defensively.

Tatum scored 14 of his 34 points in an incredible early first-quarter blitz for the Celtics, who dropped to 1-2 on their fourgame West Coast trip. Jaylen Brown sat out his third straight game with a strained right hamstring, and nobody else managed more than Robert Williams III's 13 points

Knicks 121, Spurs 109: At San Antonio, R.J. Barrett made a career-high seven 3-pointers and scored 32 points, and New York snapped a three-game skid,.

Alec Burks scored 18 points, Immanuel Quickley added 16 points and Julius Randle had 15 for the Knicks, who won at San Antonio for the first time since Jan. 2, 2014. "Heck yeah, we needed that," New York center Mitchell Robinson said. "We needed that win bad. We're desperate right now."

Derrick White had a season-high 26 points along with six rebounds and seven assists for the Spurs, who have dropped two straight after a season-long three-game winning streak. Dejounte Murray added 15 points, seven rebounds and seven assists.

Associated Press reports are included in this story.

RANGERS LATE TUESDAY

Khaira stretchered off as Rangers blow out Blackhawks

Associated Press

CHICAGO - By the time Chicago Blackhawks forward Jujhar Khaira saw New York Rangers defenseman Jacob Trouba, it was too late. The result was a huge hit that sent Khaira to the hospital.

Khaira was stretchered off the ice after he was leveled by Trouba in the second period of New York's 6-2 victory Tuesday night.

"Personally, I was pretty shaken," Blackhawks captain Jonathan Toews said. "I'm not going to lie to you. Just glad to hear he's

Artemi Panarin had two goals and two assists against his first NHL team, passing 500 career points and helping New York to its seventh straight win. Trouba, Chris Kreider, Kevin Rooney and Barclay Goodrow also scored, and Alexandar Georgiev made 24 saves.

The Rangers also beat the Blackhawks 3-2 on Saturday night in New York. Their second matchup in four days was overshadowed by Trouba's big hit on Khaira in the

"It's a bad effect. I didn't feel too good

and I know our player didn't feel too good, either," New York coach Gerard Gallant said. 'It's a part of hockey, it's a big hit, but I don't think it helped the game. To see a guy like that, it's hard to look at."

Khaira's head was down as he gathered in the puck, and he looked up right as Trouba appeared to drive his right shoulder into his chin. Khaira's head bounced hard off the ice, and there were no signs of movement from him as the Blackhawks and Rangers scuffled nearby.

A stretcher was wheeled onto the ice, and medical personnel worked on Khaira as each team looked on from the bench area. A handful of his teammates and the Rangers tapped the stretcher as Khaira was taken off. The Blackhawks said Khaira suffered an

'upper-body blow" and was taken by ambulance to a hospital.

"He's up, he's talking, he's very responsive," interim coach Derek King said. "I think he wants to get back on the ice. He's done some tests already, as far as what the doc told me, but he has some more tests to be done. So we won't know the extent of the injury until after these tests."

YANKEES

Frazier hasn't quite turned the page on tumultuous time with Yanks just yet

By Kristie Ackert New York Daily News

NEW YORK - Clint Frazier isn't losing any sleep over being designated for assignment by the Yankees. The controversial outfielder was excited for his next chapter on Tues-

day.
When a fan responded to a Frazier tweet with, "I'm so glad this dude isn't a Yankee anymore," Frazier shot back: "So am I," along with four "rolling on the floor laughing" emojis.

Frazier was unceremoniously released by the Yankees to open up a spot on the 40-man roster. He was not a free agent long, signed by the Cubs right before MLB instituted the lockout.

After a tumultuous five years in the Yankees organization, Frazier says he is eager to turn the page but not before bringing up a few of his rougher moments in pinstripes.

"Me being happy I'm on the Cubs has nothing to do with Yankees fans," Frazier wrote on Twitter. "It has to do with the fact that I'm happy to be able to play somewhere I'll get a better chance at playing."

Frazier is clearly looking to get off to a better start after signing a one-year, \$1.5 million deal with the Cubs.

"One of the biggest reasons I chose to come here was the fan base and how electric you guys can be towards your players," Frazier wrote. "I'll be just as electric for you guys, too. Here's to leaving my razor at home."

That's obviously a shot at the Yankees' facial hair policy prohibiting players' hair to extend past the collar or facial hair that extends past the top lip. It's also an acknowledgment of the bad start he had with the Yankees. Frazier showed up for spring training in 2017 with long-ish hair, which annoyed the front office and some in the clubhouse.

He also joked about the other controversy in his first spring training with the Bombers after being acquired from Cleveland.

"I'll be continuing to wear #77, as well," Frazier wrote on Twitter. "I requested #7, but unfortunately it was taken, marking that as the first time I ever asked for that number."

According to reports at the time, Frazier had requested Mickey Mantle's retired No. 7. Frazier and the Yankees both denied the reports and insisted he never made the request.

"I would never ask for a legend's number," Frazier wrote on Twitter at the time. "Ready to play some baseball. I care more about the front of the jersey than the back."

After arriving in the 2016 trade that sent Andrew Miller to Cleveland, Frazier was always about potential. He was limited by injuries - including a concussion in spring 2018 that had linger-

ing effects for years.
Frazier, 27, finally seemed to put his "legendary bat speed" together at the big league level in 2020. He came out of that season having won the starting left field job going into last

But the No. 5 overall pick in the 2013 draft did not play after June 30 of this year because of health issues related to dizziness.

That set up months of medical tests and therapy attempts. Frazier was on track to play a rehab game in the minors in August but pulled himself out after not feeling "right."

METS

Where managerial search stands as Showalter interviews

By Matthew Roberson New York Daily News

NEW YORK — For the last two years, the Mets were managed by a man in his late-30s. Luis Rojas celebrated his 40th birthday amid very un-celebratory conditions last season, as the Mets were already deep into their freefall by Rojas' birthday on Sept. 1.

Following his dismissal, the Mets have widened their search for his replacement. While several of the reported candidates also skew to the younger side, the one generating the most buzz began his managerial career before several players on the Mets' roster were even born.

According to several reports, Buck Showalter, who was set to interview for the job on Wednesday, is the favorite to fill the vacancy in Citi Field's home dugout. Showalter, with 1,551 wins and three Manager of the Year awards from his 20 seasons as an MLB manager, is the classic establishment figure. Apart from managing in a World Series, the 65-year-old has seen nearly everything the game has to He managed old Don

Mattingly and young Derek Jeter in four years with the Yankees. After moving on from the Yankees and their gilded history, Showalter went to a franchise with no history, becoming the first manager of the expansion Arizona Diamondbacks in 1998. After leaving both of his first two gigs he resigned after getting pushed out by the Yankees and was fired by the Diamondbacks — the teams won the World Series in the first year after Showalter's departure.

Later stints in Texas and Baltimore crossed Showalter's path with Alex Rodriguez and Manny Machado but playoff appearances came only thrice in 13 combined seasons with the Rangers and Orioles. If he does in fact end up with the Mets, he'll have no shortage of star power again. One of those high-wattage players, Max Scherzer, is said to have expressed his preference for Showalter.

The Mets, who have not been to the playoffs since losing the Wild Card Game to San Francisco in 2016, also have five other names in their pool. Former Tigers and Angels manager Brad Ausmus, a Connecticut native, who was hired in Anaheim by current Mets general manager Billy Eppler, has already interviewed. So has Matt Quatraro, the Rays bench coach whose only managerial experience came in the low levels of Tampa Bay's minor league system during the late 2000s.

REGIONAL DIGEST

AHL resets Wolf Pack schedule after COVID issues

As the Hartford Wolf Pack continues to deal with COVID protocols, the AHL announced on Wednesday that Friday's game against Lehigh Valley has now been postponed. In addition, the league announced the three previous postponements as well as Friday's game have officially been rescheduled.

The Dec. 1 game vs. Springfield will be played Jan. 26, and the Dec. 4 game against Utica will be played March 28. Also, Wednesday's game vs. Belleville will be March 2 and Friday's game has been moved to Feb. 5. All

four games will be at the XL Center. In addition, a Dec. 3 game at Providence has been rescheduled for April 4. For more details go to hartfordwolfpack.com.

Rosa named state's top player

Bristol Central senior quarterback Victor Rosa, who has verbally committed to play football at UConn next season, was named the 2021-22 Gatorade Connecticut Football Player of the Year on Tuesday.

Rosa rushed for 2,728 yards and 41 touchdowns this season for the Rams, who went 9-2 and advanced to the Class L quarterfinals. The 6-foot, 193-pound all-around

athlete ran for more than 200 yards nine times and had a 409-yard game with eight touchdowns in a win over Tolland on Oct. 22.

A three-star athlete according to 247sports, Rosa also passed for 849 yards on the season and had eight passing touchdowns. Defensively, he totaled 50 tackles and forced two fumbles.

Athletic brings back captain

Hartford Athletic captain and all-time scoring leader Danny Barrera re-signed with the franchise for the 2022 season, according to a team release on Tuesday. "This community has become home for me and my family, and I am thrilled to be back with Hartford Athletic for a fourth season," Barrera said, according to the release.

Barrera, who joined the Athletic for their inaugural season in 2019, had the best year of his career in 2021, scoring eight goals and a league-high 12 assists. He became the first Hartford player to be named to the USL Championship's All-League First Team. The midfielder is also Hartford's all-time leader in goals scored (13), assists (23), key passes (154) and USL Championship appearances

Staff reports

SCOREBOARD

NBA				
EASTERN CONI	FEREI W	NCE L	PCT	GB
Brooklyn	17	7	.708	
Philadelphia	13	11	.542	4
Boston	13	12	.520	$4\frac{1}{2}$
New York	12	12	.500	5
Toronto	11	13	.458	6
SOUTHEAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Miami	14	11	.560	
Washington	14	11	.560	_
Charlotte	14	12	.538	1/2
Atlanta	13	12	.520	1
Orlando	5	20	.200	9
CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB
Chicago	17	8	.680	_
Milwaukee	16	9	.640	1
Cleveland	13	12	.520	- 1
Indiana	10	16	.385	7 ½
Detroit	4	19	.174	12
WESTERN CON				
SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Memphis	14	10	.583	_
Dallas	11	12	.478	2 1/2
San Antonio	8	15	.348	5 1/2
Houston	7	16	.304	6 ½
New Orleans NORTHWEST	7 W	19	.269	8
		L	PCT	GB
Utah	16	7	.696	_
Denver	11	12	.478	5 5½
Minnesota	11	13	.458 .440	5 ½ 6
Portland Oklahoma City	11 7	14 16	.304	9
PACIFIC	w	16 L	PCT	GB
				- GD
Golden State	20	4	.833	_
Phoenix	20 13	4 12	.833	7 1/2
L.A. Clippers L.A. Lakers	13	12	.520 .520	7 1/2
Sacramento	10	14	.520	1 /2
Jaciannento	10	14	.41/	10
WEDNESDAY'S RE				
Chicago at Clevel				
New York at India	na. la	te		

Philadelphia at Charlotte, late Washington at Detroit, late Milwaukee at Miami, late Oklahoma City at Toronto, late Brooklyn at Houston, late Dallas at Memphis, late Denver at New Orleans, late Utah at Minnesota, late Orlando at Sacramento, late Portland at Golden State, late Boston at L.A. Clippers, late

THURSDAY'S GAMES Utah at Philadelphia, 7p.m. L.A. Lakers at Memphis, 8p.m. Denver at San Antonio, 8:30p.m.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS Brooklyn 102, Dallas 99 New York 121, San Antonio 109 L.A. Lakers 117, Boston 102

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE									
ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OT.	PTS	GF	GA		
Florida	25	17	4	4	38	96	71		
Toronto	27	18	7	2	38	85	66		
Tampa Bay	25	16	5	4	36	84	67		
Detroit	26	13	10	3	29	73	83		
Boston	21	12	8	1	25	61	56		
Buffalo	25	8	14	3	19	70	92		
Ottawa	24	7	16	1	15	63	93		
Montreal	27	6	18	3	15	61	96		
METRO.	GP	W	L	ОТ	PTS	GF	GA		
Washington	26	16	4	6	38	92	65		
N.Y. Rangers	24	17	4	3	37	74	59		
Carolina	24	17	6	1	35	79	54		
Pittsburgh	25	12	8	5	29	75	68		
Columbus	24	13	11	0	26	80	80		
New Jersey	23	9	9	5	23	67	79		
Philadelphia	23	8	11	4	20	56	79		
N.Y. Islanders	21	6	10	5	17	43	64		
WESTERN CONFERENCE									

CENTRAL	GP	W	L	ОТ	PTS	GF	GA
Minnesota	25	18	6	1	37	96	72
St. Louis	25	13	8	4	30	84	73
Nashville	25	14	10	1	29	73	70
Colorado	22	13	7	2	28	92	76
Dallas	22	13	7	2	28	64	59
Winnipeg	25	12	9	4	28	76	72
Chicago	25	9	14	2	20	56	81
Arizona	25	5	18	2	12	44	93
PACIFIC	GP	344		OT	DTC	0.5	~ *
PACIFIC	GP	VV	-	υı	PTS	GF	GA
Calgary		15	6	5	35	84	GA 56
			_				
Calgary	26	15	6	5	35	84	56
Calgary Anaheim	26 27 24	15 14	6	5	35 33	84 89	56 78
Calgary Anaheim Edmonton	26 27 24	15 14 16	6 8 8	5 5 0	35 33 32	84 89 87	56 78 74
Calgary Anaheim Edmonton San Jose Vegas Los Angeles	26 27 24 26	15 14 16 14	6 8 8 11	5 5 0 1	35 33 32 29	84 89 87 71	56 78 74 71
Calgary Anaheim Edmonton San Jose Vegas	26 27 24 26 24	15 14 16 14 14	6 8 8 11 10	5 5 0 1	35 33 32 29 28	84 89 87 71 81	56 78 74 71 73

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS Colorado at N.Y. Rangers, late Philadelphia at New Jersey, late Boston at Vancouver, late Dallas at Vegas, late

THURSDAY'S GAMES Anaheim at Columbus, 7p.m. Chicago at Montreal, 7p.m. Tampa Bay at Toronto, 7p.m. Nashville at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30p.m. Detroit at St. Louis, 8p.m. Boston at Edmonton, 9p.m. Carolina at Calgary, 9p.m. Winnipeg at Seattle, 10p.m. Dallas at Los Angeles, 10:30p.m. Minnesota at San Jose, 10:30p.m.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS Tampa Bay 3, Montreal 2 N.Y. Islanders 5, Ottawa 3 Nashville 5, Detroit 2 Toronto 5, Columbus 4 Anaheim 2 Buffalo 0 Carolina 4, Winnipeg 2 St. Louis 4, Florida 3 (OT) N.Y. Rangers 6, Chicago 2 Minnesota 4, Edmonton 1 San Jose 5, Calgary 3

2021-22 TEAM VALUATIONS

NY Rangers	\$2 B	21%	\$94 M	\$-20 M
Toronto	\$1.8B	20%	\$101 M	\$-32 M
Montreal	\$1.6B	19%	\$105 M	\$-18 M
Chicago	\$1.4B	29%	\$78 M	\$-41 M
Boston	\$1.3B	30%	\$78 M	\$-45 M
Philadelphia	\$1.2B	50%	\$74 M	\$-48 M
Edmonton	\$1.1 B	100%	\$89 M	\$-23 M
Los Angeles	\$1.025B	24%	\$88 M	\$-23 M
Detroit	\$990 M	28%	\$74 M	\$-37 M
NY Islanders	\$950 M	83%	\$73 M	\$-38 M
Washington	\$930 M	24%	\$71 M	\$-45 M
Pittsburgh	\$900 M	38%	\$76 M	\$-47 M
Seattle	\$875 M	40%	-	-
Vancouver	\$825 M	14%	\$68 M	\$-35 M
New Jersey	\$775 M	46%	\$78 M	\$-44 M
Dallas	\$720 M	25%	\$77 M	\$-37 M
Vegas	\$710 M	25%	\$76 M	\$-38 M
Calgary	\$680 M	42%	\$71 M	\$-39 M
Minnesota	\$675 M	35%	\$69 M	\$-53 M
Tampa Bay	\$650 M	38%	\$80 M	\$-50 M
St Louis	\$640 M	25%	\$70 M	\$-52 M
Colorado	\$630 M	35%	\$69 M	\$-45 M
San Jose	\$625 M	21%	\$65 M	\$-51 M
Anaheim	\$620 M	35%	\$66 M	\$-46 M
Nashville	\$600 M	38%	\$70 M	\$-56 M
Winnipeg	\$575 M	42%	\$68 M	\$-46 M
Carolina	\$550 M	25%	\$69 M	\$-43 M
Ottawa	\$525 M	22%	\$67 M	\$-30 M
Buffalo	\$500 M	30%	\$69 M	\$-40 M
Columbus	\$475 M	53%	\$67 M	\$-28 M
Florida	\$450 M	53%	\$68 M	\$-43 M
Arizona	\$400 M	40%	\$66 M	\$-33 M
CV-current	value; 1-	Y-1-y	ear cha	nge
pct; REV-rev				
income; am				-bil-
lions; M-Mil	lions; fo	rbes.	com	

MLS CUP CHAMPIONSHIP SATURDAY'S FINAL, Providence Park #4 New York City FC at #4 Portland, 3 p.m.

TENNIS

WTA OPEN ANGERS ARENA LOIRE Arena LoireAngers, France, out-hard WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16 #2 Zhang Shuai d. Anna Blinkova, 6-1, 6-1 #8 Kristina Mladenovic d. Jessika Ponchet, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Jana Fett d. Julia Grabher, 6-3, 2-6, 6-4. WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32 #6 Vera Zvonareva d. Stefanie Voegele, 6-4, 6-4.

Polona Hercog d. #7 Oceane Dodin, 7-5, 6-0.

6-2, 6-2. Mallaurie Noel d. Ankita Raina,

Natalia Vikhlyantseva d. Ana Bogdan. 7-6(8), 6-3,

NFL						
AMERICAN EAST	CO W	NFE L	REN T	ICE PCT	PF	P
New England	9	4	0	.692	350	20
Buffalo	7	5	0	.583	336	19
Miami	6	7	0	.462	254	28
N.Y. Jets	3	9	0	.250	217	36
SOUTH	W	L	Т	PCT	PF	P
Tennessee	8	4	0	.667	304	29
Indianapolis	7	6	0	.538	371	28
Houston	2	10	0	.167		
Jacksonville	2	10	0	.167	180	32
NORTH	W	L	Т	PCT	PF	P
Baltimore	8	4	0	.667	282	26
Cincinnati	7	5	0	.583	331	26
Pittsburgh	6	5	1	.542	244	28
Cleveland	6	6	0	.500		
WEST	W	L	Т	PCT	PF	P
Kansas City	8	4	0	.667	303	25
L.A. Chargers		5	0	.583	314	31
Denver	6	6	0	.500	237	21
LacVogac	c	c	^	EOO	274	21

ı	Las vegas	О	О	U	.500	214	312
	NATIONAL (CON	IFEI	REN	CE		
	EAST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
ı	Dallas	8	4	0	.667	353	267
ı	Washington	6	6	0	.500	246	297
ı	Philadelphia	6	7	0	.462	337	291
ı	N.Y. Giants	4	8	0	.333	211	273
	SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
	Tampa Bay	9	3	0	.750	377	270
ı	Atlanta	5	7	0	.417	216	332
ı	Carolina	5	7	0	.417	236	253
ı	New Orleans	5	7	0	.417	274	276
ı	NORTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
ı	Green Bay	9	3	0	.750	283	242
ı	Minnesota	5	7	0	.417	308	305
ı	Chicago	4	8	0	.333	201	287
ı	Detroit	1	10	1	.125	203	316
	WEST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
	Arizona	10	2	0	.833	343	224
ı	L.A. Rams	8	4	0	.667	336	270
ı	Can Erancicoo		6	Λ	Enn	202	270

WEEK 14 THURSDAY'S GAMEPittsburgh at Minnesota, 8:20p.m. SUNDAY'S GAMES Atlanta at Carolina, 1p.m. Baltimore at Cleveland, 1p.m. Dallas at Washington, 1p.m. Jacksonville at Tennessee, 1p.m. Las Vegas at Kansas City, 1p.m. New Orleans at N.Y. Jets, 1p.m. Seattle at Houston, 1p.m. Detroit at Denver, 4:05p.m. N.Y. Giants at L.A. Chargers, 4:05p.m.

Chicago at Green Bay, 8:20p.m. MONDAY'S GAME
L.A. Rams at Arizona, 8:15p.m. Off: Indianapolis, Miami, New England, Philadelphia

Buffalo at Tampa Bay, 4:25p.m. San Francisco at Cincinnati, 4:25p.m.

ODDS

COLLEGE BASK	ETBA	LL THURSDAY
FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG
Purdue	111/2	at Rutgers
at Kent State	51/2	Detroit Mercy
at San Jose St.	9	Monmouth
Iowa	3	at Iowa State
at New Mexico	12	Denver
at Arizona State	41/2	Grand Canyon
NBA		THURSDAY

FAVORITE at Philadelphia LA Lakers at San Antonio	off 3	(off) (221)	at Me	RDOG Utah mphis enver
NHL FAVORITE Chicago at Toronto at Columbus	-115 -138	UNDEI at Moi Tampa Anahe	ntreal a Bay	SDAY Line -104 +115 -105

Chicago	-115	at Montrea	al -10
at Toronto	-138	Tampa Bay	/ +11
at Columbus	-114	Anaheim	-10
at N.Y Islander	s-120	Nashville	+10
at St. Louis	-196	Detroit	+16
at Calgary	-115	Carolina	-10
Boston	-111	at Edmont	on -10
Winnipeg	-118	at Seattle	-10
Dallas	-137	at Los Ange	eles +11
Minnesota	-150	at San Jose	e +12
COLLEGE FO	OTB/	ALL SAT	TURDAY
FAVORITE	SP	O/U UN	DERDO
Λrmv	71/2	(34)	at Nav

Army	71/2	(34)	at Navy
Bahamas Bowl	l	F	riday, Dec. 17
Toledo	101/2	(531/2)	Mid Tenn.
Cure Bowl			
Coastal Carolin	a 10	(63)	N. Illinois
Boca Raton Bo	wl	Satu	rday, Dec. 18
Appalachian S	t.21/2	(671/2)	W. Kentucky
New Mexico Bo	owl		
Fresno State	101/2	(50)	UTEP
Independence	Bowl		
BYU	7	(541/2)	UAB
LendingTree Bo	owl		
Liberty	81/2	(581/2)	E. Michgian
LA Bowl			
Oregon State		(66)	Utah State
Now Orleans P	luno		

La-Lafayette 6
Myrtle Beach Bowl (53) Marshall **Monday, Dec. 20** 9½ (53) Old Dominion Famous Idaho Potato Bowl Tue, Dec. 21 3 (58½) Kent State Frisco Bowl 21/2 (50) San Diego St. Armed Forces Bowl Wednesday, Dec. 22 31/2 (591/2) Missouri Frisco Football Classic Thu., Dec. 23

Miami (Ohio) 3½ (53½) North Texas Gasparilla Bowl 71/2 (57) Friday, Dec. 24 61/2 (60) Saturday, Dec. 25 50) Ball State Camellia Bowl Georgia St. 4½ (50)

Quick Lane Bowl Mo 4½ (50) Ball State

Monday, Dec. 27

1 (60½) W. Michigan Military Bowl Boston College 31/2 (51) East Carolina

Birmingham Bowl
Auburn 3 (52) Houston SERVPRO First Responder Bowl 11/2 (551/2) Air Force Liberty Bowl Mississippi St. 81/2 (60) Texas Tech **Holiday Bowl** 1 (60) Guaranteed Rate Bowl (45) West Virginia Fenway Bowl Wednesday, Dec. 29 1 (721/2) SMU Pinstripe Bowl Virginia Tech 1 (541/2) Maryland Cheez-It Bowl 1 (45½) Iowa State Alamo Bowl

(611/2) Oklahoma 41/2 Oregon Duke's Mayo Bowl North Carolina 7 Thursday, Dec. 30 (571/2) South Carolina **Music City Bowl** 31/2 Peach Bowl Pittsburgh 31/2 (631/2) Michigan St. Las Vegas Bowl Wisconsin (421/2) Arizona State Friday, Dec. 31 6½ (59½) Wake Forest **Gator Bowl** Texas A&M Sun Bowl 21/2 (60) Wash. St. Arizona Bowl 71/2 (55) Cent. Michigan **CFP Semifinal Cotton Bowl Classic** Alabama 13½ (58) CFP Semifinal Orange Bowl Cincinnati Michigan 71/2 (44) **Outback Bowl**

Saturday, Jan. 1 5½) Arkansas Penn State 21/2 (461/2) Fiesta Bowl Notre Dame 21/2 (451/2) Oklahoma St. Citrus Bowl 21/2 (44) Kentucky Iowa Rose Bowl Ohio State 61/2 (66) Utah **Sugar Bowl** Mississippi Texas Bowl Tuesday, Jan. 4

(48) Kansas State **NFL WEEK 14** THURSDAY O/U UNDERDOG at Minnesota 3 $(43\frac{1}{2})$ Pittsburgh SUNDAY Dallas (48) at Washington at Carolina 21/2 $(42\frac{1}{2})$ Atlanta at Kansas City 8½ at Cleveland 2½ (47½) (42) Las Vegas Baltimore

at Tennessee 81/2 (431/2) Jacksonville New Orleans Seattle (43) (41½) 51/2 at NY Jets 71/2 at Houston at Denver 91/2 (42)Detroit (43½) (53½) at LA Chargers 10 NY Giants Buffalo at Tamap Bay San Francisco 11/2 (48½) at Cincinnati at Green Bay 121/2 (431/2)

21/2 (511/2) at Arizona LA Rams For the latest odds, go to FanDuel Sportsbook, https://sportsbook.fanduel.com/

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

MEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED 1.Purdue (8-0) did not play. Next: at Rutgers, Thursday.. 2.Baylor (8-0) did not play. Next: vs. #6 3.Duke (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. SC 4.UCLA (8-1) did not play. Next: at 5.Gonzaga (7-2) did not play. Next: vs. Merrimack, Thursday. **6.Villanova (7-2) did not play. Next:** at 7.Texas (6-1) did not play. Next: at #23 8.Kansas (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. Missouri, Saturday. **9.Alabama (7-1) did not play. Next:** vs. No. 14 Houston, Saturday 10.Kentucky (7-1) did not play. Next: at 11.Arizona (7-0) vs. Wyoming. Next: at Illinois, Saturday.

12.Arkansas (9-0) did not play. Next: at Oklahoma. Saturdav 13.Tennessee (6-2) did not play. Next: vs. UNC-Greensboro, Saturday. 14.Houston (8-1) vs. did not play. Next: at #9 Alabama, Saturday.

15.UConn (8-1) at West Virginia. Next: vs. St. Bonaventure. Saturday 16.Southern Cal (9-0) did not play. Next: vs. Long Beach State, Sunday. 17.lowa State (8-0) did not play. Next: vs. Iowa, Thursday. 18.Auburn 419 (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. Nebraska. Saturdav 19.Michigan State (7-2) at Minnesota. Next: vs. Penn State, Saturday. 20.Florida (7-2) beat North Florida 85-55. Next: vs. Maryland, Sunday. 21.Ohio State (6-2) vs. Towson. Next: vs. #22 Wisconsin, Saturday. 22.Wisconsin (8-1) beat Indiana 64-59. Next: vs. #21 Ohio State, Saturday. 23.Seton Hall (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. #7 Texas, Thursday. **24.BYU (7-1) vs. Utah State. Next:** vs.

WEDNESDAY'S SCORES

American 83, St. Francis (Pa.) 73 Delaware 68, Lafayette 58 George Washington 75, Coppin St. 62 Marist 64, Binghamton 51 Marshall 100, Bluefield 57 Penn St. 74, Wagner 54 Regis 79, St. Joseph's (Maine) 73 Robert Morris 99, Lancaster Bible 51 Saint Joseph's 78, Penn 71 St. Bonaventure 84, Loyola (Md.) 71 Stony Brook 79, Hofstra 62

25.LSU (8-0) did not play. Next: at Georgia Tech, Saturday.

Chattanooga 78, UNC-Asheville 73 Emory & Henry 82, S. Virginia 77 FAU 84, Palm Beach Atlantic 63 Miami 76, Lipscomb 59 MIDWEST

Lawrence 81, Knox 70 Xavier 96, Ball St. 50 Youngstown St. 84, Cent. Michigan 77 SOUTHWEST St. Thomas (TX) 102, Champion Chr. 47

WOMEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED 1. South Carolina (9-0) did not play. Next: vs. #8 Maryland, Sunday.

2. N.C. State (8-1) did not play. Next: at 3. Connecticut (5-1) did not play. Next:

at Georgia Tech, Thursday. **4. Stanford (5-2) did not play. Next:** vs. Pacific, Sunday.

5. Baylor (9-1) beat Alcorn St 94-40. Next: at #13 Michigan, Sunday, Dec. 19. North Dakota State, Thursday.

7. Louisville (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. #14 Kentucky, Sunday. 8. Maryland (9-2) Beat Purdue 86-71. 9. Indiana (6-2) vs. did not play. Next: vs. Fairfield, Thursday.

10. Tennessee (8-0) did not play. Next: vs. Georgia State, Sunday.

11. Texas (6-1) did not play. Next: vs.

12. lowa (5-2) lost to #15 lowa State 77-70. Next: vs. UCF, Saturday, Dec. 18. 13. Michigan (8-1) did not play. Next: at Wisconsin, Thursday.

14. Kentucky (6-1) did not play. Next: 15. Iowa State (9-1) beat #12 Iowa 77-70. Next: vs. Northern Iowa, Sunday 16. BYU (8-0) did not play. Next: at 17. South Florida (5-3) did not play.

18. Texas A&M (8-1) did not play. Next: 19. Duke (8-0) did not play. Next: vs. #1 South Carolina, Wednesday, Dec. 15. 20. Ohio State (7-1) did not play. Next: 21. Georgia (8-1) beat North Florida 69-40. Next: at #2 NC State, Dec. 16. 22. Notre Dame (8-2) beat Valparaiso 73-56. Next: vs. Fort Wayne, Sunday. 23. Oregon State (4-2) did not play. Next: at Monmouth, Saturday 24. LSU (6-1) did not play. Next: vs. Texas Southern, Sunday. 25. Colorado (9-0) did not play. Next:

GOLF

PGA CHAMPIONS QUALIFYING TPC Tampa Bay, Lutz, Fla. 6,887 yards; Par: 71 Second round

David Branshaw	67-67-134	-8
Tom Gillis	65-69-134	-8
Jean-Francois Remesy	67-68-135	-7
Alan Morin	70-66-136	-6
Ricardo Gonzalez	67-69-136	-6
Rob Labritz	65-71-136	-6
Mark Brown	70-67-137	-5
Esteban Toledo	66-71-137	-5
Skip Kendall	70-68-138	-4
Mario Tiziani	66-72-138	-4
Michael Muehr	70-69-139	-3
Mark Mielke	70-69-139	
Rick Garboski	69-70-139	-3
Scott Dunlap	66-73-139	-3
Guy Boros	66-73-139	-3
Ken Tanigawa	72-68-140	
Ken Duke	72-68-140	-2
Jarmo Sandelin	71-69-140	-2
Paul Stankowski	68-72-140	-2
Thongchai Jaidee	68-72-140	-2

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

SATURDAY'S GAME, E. Rutherford, N.J. Army (8-3) vs. Navy (3-8), 3p.m.

NCAA FCS PLAYOFFS FRIDAY'S OUARTERFINALS Montana at James Madison, 7p.m. SATURDAY'S QUARTERFINALS ETSU at North Dakota St., noon South Dakota St at Villanova, 2p.m. Montana St. at Sam Houston, 8:30p.m.

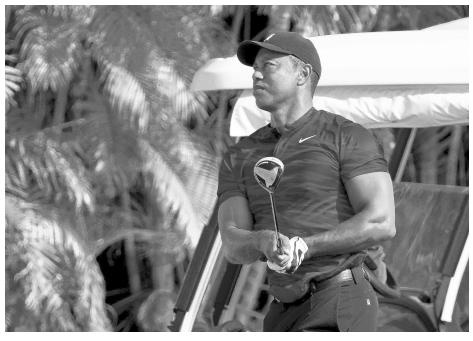
SATURDAY'S SEMIFINALS Shepherd vs. Valdosta St., 3:30p.m. Ferris St. vs. Colorado Mines, noon. **NCAA DIVISION III PLAYOFFS**

NCAA DIVISION II PLAYOFFS

SATURDAY'S SEMIFINALS Mary Hardin-Baylor vs Wis.-Whitewater, 3p.m. North Central vs. Mount Union, noon.

UPCOMING BOWL GAMES FRIDAY, DEC. 17 Bahamas BowlNassau, Bahamas Toledo (7-5) vs. Mid. Tenn. (6-6), noon Cure Bowl, Orlando, Fla.
N. Illinois (9-4) vs. C. Carolina (10-2), 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, DEC. 18 Boca Raton Bowl, Boca Raton, Fla. W. Ky (8-5) vs. Appal. St. (10-3), 11a.m. Celebration Bowl, Atlanta SC St. (6-5) vs. Jackson St. (11-1), noon New Mexico Bowl. Albuquerque Fresno St. (9-3) vs. UTEP (7-5), 2:15p.m. Independence Bowl, Shreveport, La. #12BYU (10-2) vs. UAB (8-4), 3:30p.m. Lending Tree Bowl, Mobile, Ala. E. Michigan (7-5) vs. Liberty (7-5), 5:45 p.m. LA Bowl, Inglewood, Calif. Oregon St. (7-5) vs. Utah St. (10-3), 7:30 p.m. **New Orleans Bowl, New Orleans** #16 La-Laf. (12-2) vs. Marshall (7-5), 9:15 p.m.



Tiger Woods will team with his 12-year-old son Charlie at next week's PNC Championship in Orlando, Florida. Woods was seriously injured in a February car crash. MIKE EHRMANN/GETTY

Tee time for Tiger: Woods set to return

Less than year after crash, he'll team with son at event

By Doug Ferguson Associated Press

Ten months after his right leg was badly damaged in a car crash, Tiger Woods is returning to competition next week with 12-year-old son Charlie in the PNC Championship.

"Although it's been a long and challenging year, I am very excited to close it out by competing in the PNC Championship with my son Charlie," Woods tweeted. "I'm playing as a Dad and couldn't be more excited and proud."

It will be his first competition, even in a tournament Woods described last week as the "hit-and-giggle" variety that he can play, since he and his son tied for seventh a year ago in the unofficial event that pairs family members.

The tournament was holding a spot for Woods, and he fueled speculation he might play the Dec. 18-19 event at the Ritz Carlton Golf Club Orlando when he took full swings with driver on Saturday and Sunday during his Hero World Challenge in the Bahamas.

"We have been liaising with Tiger and his team for some time and are delighted that he has now decided to make his return to competitive golf at the PNC Championship," said Alastair Johnston of IMG. the executive chairman of the event.

Woods was driving to a Los Angeles course for a television shoot on Feb. 23 when police say he was driving about 85 mph along a winding, coastal suburban road. The SUV crashed through a median and plunged down a hill.

Doctors said he shattered the tibia and fibula bones in his right leg in multiple locations. Those were stabilized by a rod in the tibia. A combination of screws and pins were used to stabilize additional injuries in the ankle and foot.

Woods said last week that amputation was considered. He declined to discuss specifics of the crash, saying only "you can read about all that there in the police report."

The PNC Championship was formerly

known as the Father-Son Challenge until it changed the title to be more inclusive of family members.

For the first time in its 24 years, the tournament has a current No. 1 player in the field, Nelly Korda, who will be playing with her father Petr, a former Australian Open tennis champion.

Lee Trevino is playing again and has never missed the tournament since it began in 1995. Justin Thomas returns as the defending champion with his father, Mike, a longtime PGA professional.

Still, this becomes all about Woods inside the ropes, hitting shots that count toward

A year ago, it was his last event before a fifth back surgery, not as serious as the previous ones. Toward the end of the second round, he was not hitting some tee shots because his son played from a forward tee and was getting it out there farther than Woods could have hit it.

Fans are returning to the Florida course, and it already is close to a sellout because organizers limit ticket sales to preserve the intimate nature of the event.

The next question will be when Woods, who shares the career PGA Tour record with 82 victories, will play in an official

He had said last week that was a long way off, dousing hopes of a return by suggesting his leg wouldn't allow him to practice as much, he was at peace with that and "I've made the climb enough times." He also said he hadn't reached a point of deciding whether to complete a full comeback from his latest injuries.

"I'll play a round here or there, a little hit and giggle, I can do something like that," he said. "To see some of my shots fall out of the sky a lot shorter than they used to is a little eye-opening, but at least I'm able to do it again. That's something that for a while there it didn't look like I was going to. Now I'm able to participate in the sport of golf.

'Now, to what level? I do not know that." The first level is with his son at his side in a 36-hole event where he doesn't have to hit everv shot and can ride in a cart.

But the score will count, and that hasn't happened since the PNC Championship last vear.

IN BRIEF

Barca out of Champions League

Barcelona's 17-year streak of advancing to the Champions League knockout rounds each season ended Wednesday with an exit from the group stage that failed to finish on time because of snow in Italy.

Barca fell to a 3-0 loss at Bayern Munich that dumped the five-time European champion into a dismal — and deserved — third place in Group E.

"We start a new era, from zero, from here," Barca coach Xavi Hernández, who rejoined a club in crisis last month, told broadcaster DAZN.

Bayern's perfect six straight wins started with a 3-0 win at Camp Nou in September, and a repeat result at home let Benfica rise above Barca — and into the round-of-16 draw Monday — by beating Dynamo Kyiv

Only 15 of the 16-team lineup in the knockout stage were known on Wednesday night.

The Atalanta-Villarreal game to decide who will finish runner-up in Group F was postponed by heavy snow in the northern Italian city of Bergamo. The group was already won by Manchester United before it drew 1-1 Wednesday with last-place Young Boys at Old Trafford.

UEFA later asked Atalanta and Villarreal to try again on Thursday evening.

A grim evening for Spanish sides saw Sevilla join Barca in being eliminated, failing to advance from Group G where all four teams kicked off in contention.

Lille, the team lowest-ranked by UEFA in the group stage, seized top spot by beating Wolfsburg 3-1 in Germany. Salzburg beat Sevilla 1-0 to advance to the round of 16 as runner-up.

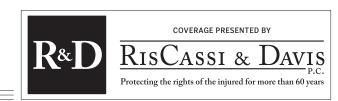
Defending champ Chelsea and Juventus had already sealed their round-of-16 places from Group H but first place in the group was in play Wednesday.

Chelsea was stunned by Zenit St. Petersburg's leveler deep into stoppage time for a 3-3 draw in Russia that let Juventus secure top spot with a 1-0 win at home to Malmo.

Juventus will be in the pot of seeded teams with the other group winners in Monday's draw, where the unseeded pot now includes Chelsea and Paris Saint-Ger-

NFL: Arrested for driving twice the speed limit through a rural Alabama community, former Saints player Glenn Foster Jr. wound up in a jail where he allegedly beat up another prisoner while trying to steal socks, authorities said. Foster showed signs of mental instability during a court appearance, records show, and a judge ordered him held for an evaluation just hours before he died in custody. It was still unknown exactly what caused Foster's death, and Alabama state police said they were investigating. Foster's parents said he had been diagnosed with mental problems, and they told The Times-Picayune/The New Orleans Advocate they fear their son might not have received proper care while he was in custody. Originally from Chicago, Foster has been living in Baton Rouge, La. He played two seasons at defensive end for the Saints, appearing in 17 games in 2013 and 2014.

NHL: The Penguins announced that winger Jake Guentzel is "week to week" with an upper-body injury. The team didn't provide specifics about the injury. Guentzel has 15 goals and 12 assists in 24 games. He's currently on a 13-game points streak.



UCONN WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Time is now for trio to step up

By Alexa Philippou

Hartford Courant

When Paige Bueckers burst onto the college basketball scene last season, it didn't take long for her to establish herself as the Huskies' best player, the person they'd turn to to create offense or to get a critical bucket at the end of a game.

Bueckers has excelled in that role, but for the next six to eight weeks as she heals from the tibial plateau fracture she sustained on Sunday against Notre Dame, the Huskies need to dig deep to figure out their identity without her.

Players and coach Geno Auriemma told media Wednesday that it'll take a team effort to compensate for the loss of Bueckers, not to mention Azzi Fudd, Nika Mühl and Aubrey Griffin, who join Bueckers on the Huskies' injured reserve. There's little doubt that the bulk of the responsibility now rests with three players in particular: seniors Christyn Williams and Olivia Nelson-Ododa, as well as redshirt senior Evina Westbrook.

The Bueckers-less stretch starts Thursday when the Huskies face Georgia Tech in Nelson-Ododa's homecoming game. The Yellow Jackets are 6-2, their two losses came against Auburn (59-51) and Purdue (53-52), though they did beat No. 20 Georgia (55-54).

UConn's senior trio have had bouts of inconsistency across their careers and sometimes in this season alone. But the beauty of what Auriemma is demanding is that he's asking them to be the best versions of themselves.

For Williams, that looks like how she played in the end of her junior season where she became a lethal two-way threat, or how she fared in the Arkansas and Minnesota games this year. Westbrook also had a strong start to the season, and her performances at Tennessee and Arkansas last season stick out.

"We need Evina at her best — whatever her best game has been since she got to UConn, that's what we need every game," Auriemma said. "Whatever Christyn's best game has been since she's been at UConn, we need that every game.

"I think that should be a sense of reassurance for them, that 'coach isn't imposing these unrealistic expectations on me, he's just expecting me to be at my best."

Westbrook will help facilitate the offense with Bueckers and Mühl out, and Williams must be aggressive to get to the rim. They both need to hit outside shots (Williams is shooting just 31.6% on 3s, Westbrook is 1-8 over the last two games) to stretch defenses.



UConn's Olivia Nelson-Ododa, left, Christyn Williams, center, and Dorka Juhász, right, talk in the first half against Notre Dame on Sunday in Storrs. JESSICA HILL/AP

Here's what else you need to know about the matchup.

Site: McCamish Pavilion, Atlanta Time: 7 p.m. Series: UConn leads, 2-0 Last meeting: No. 1 UConn 71, Georgia Tech 52, Nov. 21, 2010, in Atlanta TV: ESPN2 (Ryan Ruocco, Rebecca

Lobo, Carolyn Peck) Radio: UConn IMG Sports Network on 97.9 ESPN (Bob Joyce, Debbie Fiske)

Georgia Tech probable starters, sixth man

Lorela Cubaj, F, 6-4, Gr.; Digna Strautmane, F, 6-2, Gr.; Nerea Hermosa, F, 6-5, Jr.; Eylia Love, G/F, 6-1, So.; Lotta-Maj Lahtinen, G, 5-9, Sr.; Sarah Bates, G, 5-9, R-Sr.

UConn probable starters, sixth man

Christyn Williams, G, 5-11, Sr.; Olivia Nelson-Ododa, F, 6-5, Sr.; Evina Westbrook, G, 6-0, R-Sr.; Aaliyah Edwards, F, 6-3, So.; Caroline Ducharme, G. 6-2, Fr.: Dorka Juhász, F.

The matchup

UConn's offense: Bueckers' 21.2 points and 6.2 assists per game will be missed, as will the facilitating and perimeter threat that Mühl poses. Williams (15.0 points per game)

and Westbrook (9.5) must help compensate.

UConn's defense: Auriemma has actually been pleased with how his team has defended since the Arkansas game and how its rebounded since the South Carolina loss.

Georgia Tech's offense: Georgia Tech

plays at an extremely slow pace and only averages 61.5 points per game on 39.9% shooting. Their top scorer is Hermosa with 11.6 points per game. Georgia Tech's defense: Defense is the heart of this Georgia Tech team. The Yellow Jackets allow just 46.3 points per game, the second-best mark in the country, on 31.6% shooting (24.3% on 3s). They're also a strong rebounding team, especially on the defensive end. No team has scored more than 60 points against them. UConn keys: Offensive execution, rebounding, may have to win with

About Georgia Tech's coach: One of the legends of the game, Nell Fortner coached at Purdue, Auburn and for the Indiana Fever (where she also served as general manager) before arriving in Atlanta, where she has a 43-22 record. She most famously led the 2000 Olympic team to gold in Sydney (with Auriemma on staff).

Georgia Tech's mascot: Buzz Famous alumni: NBA player Chris Bosh, recent Dancing with the Stars winner Iman Shumpert, comedian Jeff Foxworthy

Alexa Philippou can be reached at aphilippou@courant.com

Amore

from Page 1

Abrosimova.

"We were the best team in America by 100 miles in 1997 when Shea Ralph was a freshman," Auriemma recalled. "In the first NCAA tournament game, Shea tore her ACL just running after a pass. The entire team reacted horribly to that, actually reacted as if someone has passed away, and it cost us. We ended up losing in the Final Eight where we could have won if we handled it differently. So I think it's, how mature is your team?"

Coaches have no magic formula that can prevent injuries. All they can do is tilt the odds ever so slightly in their favor by taking advantage of opportunities to get star players off their feet and out of the fray. With the Huskies leading Notre Dame 70-49 with three minutes to play on Sunday, there was such an opportunity. But Bueckers, who hadn't come out at all, remained in and the injury came with 38 seconds to go, UConn up 19.

It was then that Bueckers, the reigning national player of the year, fell awkwardly with what was eventually diagnosed as a tibial plateau fracture that will take six to eight weeks

Auriemma spent the hours since Bueckers' injury wrestling with a cauldron of emotions, and he was still wrestling, debating himself out loud, when asked about his approach to work-load management.

But great coaches don't look back at what they could have done differently. They learn, they look ahead and they lead.

"I can go back and forth and relive that whole thing," he said. "And I don't think it happened in that one play, but I think something had to have happened because what I've read is, this is usually a traumatic injury caused by some type of collision. I don't know if something happened earlier in the game, or the day before in practice — she banged knees with somebody, so I remember that.

... But that's like saying, an NFL guy, they're up two touchdowns, the starting quarterback is still taking the knee, right? You just play, you don't think about these things....

"When you think about it, these last three or four years is the most minutes any of my players have ever played. I don't mean just Paige, either. Obviously, things have evolved, things have changed, and I wish I could do it differently,

and I might end up doing it differently.

"I've always, always thought about those things, but you can't coach like that, you just can't. I've had so many injuries in the beginnings of games, in the middle of practice with no one near you. I can't allow myself to go there."

Even Hall of Fame coaches make mistakes. They may not easily acknowledge them, but they don't keep repeating them. With so many injuries now, there will be no choice but to push the starters as close to 40 minutes as possible for the next few weeks. But when Geno has Bueckers, Fudd, Griffin and Mühl back with plenty of time to chase the championship, you can bet things will be different.

And now it's time for the shock to wear off and the work to go on. UConn had its first practice without Bueckers on Tuesday, but there she was, calling out suggestions to her teammates. Christyn Williams baked her chocolate chip cookies to cheer her up. Evina Westbrook assured her they would all be there when she gets back, with national title hopes still within reach.

We'll begin to see at Georgia Tech on Thursday night if the Huskies are mature enough to handle it, but the early signs were good.

"It depends on the maturity of players, their level of confidence, their accepting a challenge," Auriemma said. "Now is my time to step up and prove why I'm at Connecticut."

He'll have to do it differently, get post players more involved in the offense. And in the most general terms, his healthy players, still a group most coaches would envy, will have to function more as a team. Auriemma and his staff will have to be more creative in order to keep winning without their most creative player.

He will demand that each player be at her very best, and it may require some of the best coaching of his career to sustain the Huskies until all their players are back.

"If it was only Paige, it would be easier," he said. "[With all the injuries], it makes our job that much more difficult. It doesn't mean we can't do it, can't have same level of success, it's just going to be more difficult.

"Nobody's going to feel sorry for me. We've just got to weather the storm. It's just going to be a long storm."

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Injuries from Page 1

still out due to the beginning of a stress reaction in her foot, the Huskies are now down to three guards – senior Christyn Williams, redshirt senior Evina Westbrook and freshman Caroline Ducharme — for the foreseeable future.

Meanwhile, junior Aubrey Griffin (back/ ankle/leg) was expected to make her season debut last week but experienced a setback in practice. Auriemma said she tried to give it a go Tuesday, but it "wasn't really successful" and she didn't practice Wednesday. "I'm not quite sure what her status could be either Thursday or Saturday. I guess we'll see day to day how that evolves.

With four players shut down, including the reigning national player of the year, it is no wonder why Auriemma called the last few days "probably as difficult as any days that I can remember" for the program

"These things happen," Auriemma said. "When you lose somebody like Paige, but if you have Nika available, it takes some of the sting off. If you have Azzi available, it take some of the sting off. But when you throw in all three of them, that's a real gut punch."

UConn doesn't have much time to figure out how to function without Bueckers and Mühl, who started half the season last year and would've backed up Bueckers if healthy. The Huskies traveled to Atlanta Wednesday ahead of their Thursday matchup against Georgia Tech, then have to face a similarly depleted UCLA team Saturday in the Never Forget Tribute Classic at the Prudential Center in Newark, N.J.

"We've just got to weather the storm," Auriemma said. "It's just going to be a long storm."

The Huskies got their first taste of life without Bueckers in Tuesday's prac-

"It was a little bit of a struggle, just trying to adjust to everything," Westbrook said. "But once we get into the swing of things we have no choice but to adapt. We have no other choice. Missing Azzi was hard, now missing Paige is going to be really difficult for us. But we're going to be just fine, it's something we have to do, we have no choice."

UConn's three seniors (Williams, Westbrook and Olivia Nelson-Ododa) will no doubt be tasked to step up. But even with those three holding things down, there's no doubt UConn will look different.

"There won't be as much creativity and as much freedom and fluidness that Paige gives us, so our execution is going to have to be even more precise," Auriemma said. Even with Bueckers on the court, the Huskies have struggled with turnovers this season, committing a season-high 21 against Notre Dame.

Westbrook said players talked over the situation after Tuesday's practice, stressing that everyone needed to contribute a little more for the team to get through the next couple weeks.

Given her previous experience dealing with a knee issue that sidelined her, Westbrook has also been sure to be in Bueckers' ear to make sure she doesn't

feel too isolated or hopeless. "She's gonna struggle. I went through a year and a

half of it," Westbrook said. "She's a little bit hard headed, she's stubborn. 'Oh, I can't do it.' And I'm telling her, 'You are sitting out, you have no choice.' ... The big goal is the national championship. Everyone knows what you bring to the table. We'll be here when you get back." Auriemma's teams have

seen devastating injuries before — he thinks back to losing Shea Ralph to an ACL tear in the 1997 NCAA Tournament and how his team "reacted horribly to that. They actually reacted as if someone had passed away, and it cost us... we could've won, had we handled it differently." A few seasons later, he said his team handled it "exceptionally" better when it lost both Ralph and Svetlana Abrosimova.

How will this season's team handle this difficult stretch? We will find out beginning Thursday.

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BASKETBALL

Reeve named USA women's team coach

Associated Press

USA Basketball didn't have to look far for its next women's coach, turning to Cheryl Reeve.

The Minnesota Lynx coach and general manager has been an assistant on the last two Olympic teams. Now she's taking over the U.S. women's national team.

"What I've learned with working with Cheryl and getting to know her over several years is that when you get Cheryl involved, you get all of her," USA

Basketball CEO Jim Tooley said. "She's engaged. She's committed, and her passion and enthusiasm are conta-

She will be the first professional women's basketball coach to lead the team since Anne Donovan was courtside for the 2008 Beijing Olympics. UConn's Geno Auriemma was the coach for the 2012 and 2016 Games. South Carolina's Dawn Staley led the Americans to a seventh consecutive gold medal at the Tokyo Olympics this past summer.



Safety Tip of the Day

Don't let your focus on the road slip as you get used to partial automation in new cars. It may cost you your life. Always drive defensively.

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SPORTS

HOCKEY

Calling a new number

Hall of Famer Ruggiero has moved on to analyzing data for sports teams

By Kat Cornetta Boston Globe

BOSTON — Her hockey playing days behind her, Angela Ruggiero's life is full of data. Data about the viewership habits of sports fans, participation in various sports, and advertising dollars spent on game broadcasts.

Ruggiero's data provides incredible insights — as does the data from her first career.

Four Olympic teams. Four Olympic medals. Ten Women's World Championships. Four Best Defender honors at those World Championships. Only the second American woman inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame. And 256 games played in a USA jersey —more than any other hockey player, man or

That data — which are just a smattering of Ruggiero's accomplishments in the sport of hockey — is why she was honored by the The Sports Museum's The Tradition event Wednesday evening at the TD Garden. Ruggiero was honored alongside Red Sox legend David Ortiz, Celtics great Kevin McHale, Revolution all-time goal scorer Taylor Twellman, former Bruins player and coach Mike Milbury, and five-time Patriots Pro Bowl tight end Ben Coates.

"Not a lot of women have received this honor," said Ruggiero. "It is great to give more visibility to women's sports via an event like this."

Born and raised in Southern California, Ruggiero traveled east as a teenager to play for Connecticut's Choate Rosemary Hall, followed by a stellar career at Harvard. A four-time All-American and the 2004 Patty Kazmaier Award winner (and still the only defenseman to earn the honor), Ruggiero was considered one of the best players in the world upon her graduation.

In 1998, she was the youngest player on the US team that won the first Olympic gold medal in women's hockey. Besides the medal, that experience set her up for the leadership opportunities that followed.

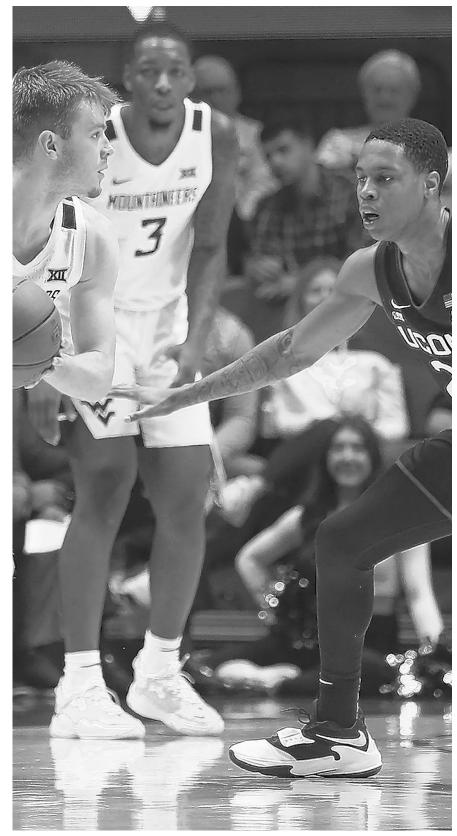
"What stuck out to me about that experience was learning what being on a team truly means," said Ruggiero. "We were all rookies in Nagano – none of us had been to an Olympics before."

Having that experience at a young age changed the type of team player Ruggiero was through the rest of her career. She served as captain for multiple teams, and soon those leadership capabilities transcended the game of hockey. At the 2010 Vancouver Olympics, her fourth, she was named a member of the International Olympic Committees' Athletes Commission. Eventually, she was elevated to a spot on the IOC's Executive Board from 2016-18, one of the highest positions an athlete can have within the governing body.

When Ruggiero talks on the ice or off, people listen, and she is using that in what she deems her second career: founder of the Sports Innovation Lab. The Boston-based company provides data analysis for teams and organizations, showing them what current fan behavior is and what fan behavior will be five and 10 years from now.

Ruggiero's company recently released a report on something she's obviously passionate about: women's sports. Ruggiero and her team's data shows that fans of women's sports are devoted and digitally savvy — and that the men's sports fans of the future will act similarly.

"You can't be a lazy women's sports fan," said Ruggiero. "You have to search for coverage, and you have to jump over a lot of hurdles to get the coverage you are looking for. They are digitally savvy, and are already where fans of men's sports will be in the future. To understand them is to understand where the puck is headed in sports."



West Virginia guard Sean McNeil, left, is defended by UConn guard Jordan Hawkins during the first half Wednesday in Morgantown, W.Va. KATHLEEN BATTEN/AP

UConn

from Page 1

on just 6-for-17 shooting. The Huskies had 16 turnovers, struggling against the famous West Virginia press at times.

Over the first 10:11 Andre Jackson and Whaley combined for all 15 of UConn's points. Jalen Gaffney broke the streak with a breakout fast break dunk that put UConn up, 17-16. The Huskies struggled from behind the arc in shooting just 1-for-12 (8.3%) in the first half and 3 of 21 for the game. The crowd's hostile atmosphere seemed to play a role in affecting shots, as UConn had multiple air balls in the first half. Despite its poor shooting from behind the arc, UConn still shot 12-for-27 (44.4%) from the field. Whaley led UConn with nine points on 4-for-7 shooting.

The Mountaineers were hot from three as they shot 5-for-10 in the first half. West Virginia came into the game making 6.9 3s a game. Sherman and Sean McNeil had 13 points apiece for the Mountaineers. who went into the half with a 32-29 lead.

Discombobulated was the word to describe the Huskies second-half start. At 15:57, Cole had his pass stolen and it seemed like an easy layup for West Virginia's Pauly Paulicap until Akok Akok made a chase-down block that had many in the West Virginia crowd bemoaning for a foul call. From there, Jackson ran down the court and passed to Jordan Hawkins only for him to lose the ball, his third turnover up to that point.

Down 33-38, Cole brought the Huskies right back with back-to-back three-pointers. Those 3s were just the second and third of the night for the Huskies, to put the UConn up, 39-38. The second half seemed to be the Cole and Whaley show, as both took turns scoring in pivotal

With 3:20 to go and the scored tied at 51-51, Tyler Polley lost the ball that led to a jump ball call that gave the Mountaineers possession. Paulicap drove to the hoop and went to the free-throw line

WEST VIRGINIA 56, UCONN 53								
UConn	M	FG	FT	RB	Α	PF	PT	
Whaley	30	7-10	1-2	3	0	4	15	
Cole	36	6-17	0-0	6	3	2	14	
Jackson	28	4-5	1-2	5	1	3	10	
Akok	31	1-5	0-0	10	1	1	2	
Hawkins	28	0-7	2-3	5	1	3	2	
Gaffney	21	3-5	0-1	1	3	1	6	
Polley	19	1-6	2-3	4	1	4	4	
Johnson	7	0-1	0-0	1	0	2	0	
TOTALS	-:	22-56	6-11	35	10	20	53	

TOTALS — 22-56 6-11 35 10 20 53
Three-point goals: 3-21, 14.3(Cole 2-8, Jackson 1-1, Akok 0-1, Gaffney 0-1, Johnson 0-1, Whaley 0-2, Hawkins 0-3, Polley 0-4). FG pct.: 39.3. FT pct.: 54.5. Team rebounds: 0. Turnovers: 16(Cole 5, Hawkins 4, Team 2, Whaley, Jackson, Gaffney, Polley, Johnson). Blocks: 2(Whaley, Akok). Steals: 8(Cole 3, Jackson 2, Hawkins 2, Gaffney).

West Virgini	aМ	FG	FT	RB	Α	PF	PT
Sherman	40	8-17	4-7	6	3	1	23
McNeil	40	5-12	4-6	3	0	0	16
Bridges	24	1-3	0-2	4	0	2	3
Cottrell	5	1-2	0-0	1	1	2	2
Ke. Johnson	19	0-0	1-2	1	1	1	1
Osabuohien	19	2-5	2-8	7	1	2	6
Paulicap	19	2-4	1-2	3	0	3	5
Carrigan	15	0-1	0-0	5	0	0	0
Curry	14	0-3	0-0	1	2	2	0
Ko. Johnson	5	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0
TOTALC		40	12 27	24		42	

TOTALS — 19-48 12-27 31 8 13 56

Three-point goals: 6-16, 37.5(Sherman 3-6, McNeil 2-7, Bridges 1-2, Osabuohien 0-1). FG pct.: 39.6. FT pct.: 44.4. Team rebounds: 0. Turnovers: 12(Sherman 4, Curry 4, Cottrell, Ke. Johnson Paulicap). Blocks: 3(Sherman, Cottrell, Paulicap). Steals: 6(Ke. Johnson 2, Sherman, Cottrell, Paulicap). Steals: 6(Ke. Johnson 2, Sherman, Osabuohien, Paulicap, Curry).

29 24 - 53 32 24 - 56

Morgantown, W. Va.

West Virginia Officials: Anderson, Smith, Groover. Att.: 12,045at WVU Coliseum,

making one of them. Then, West Virginia played lock-down defense that led to a shot clock violation. After a missed dunk by West Virginia at 1:25, UConn collected the rebound and coach Dan Hurley called time out. After multiple missed attempts off offensive rebounds by the Huskies, West Virginia got the ball finally and knocked down some pivotal free throws to take control

For much of the UConn team, this was the first real road game against tough opponent and at times nerves seemed to get the best of them. Hawkins, fresh off one his best games against Grambling State, struggled with West Virginia's defensive pressure. He had zero points on 0-for-7 shooting with three turnovers.

UConn's road trip continues Saturday with a game against St. Bonaventure at the Prudential Center in Newark, N.J. Shreyas Laddha can be reached at sladdha@courant.com.

UCONN FOOTBALL

Sammis named new offensive line coach

By Dom Amore

Hartford Courant

UConn football coach Jim Mora took another step in filling out his staff, naming Gordon Sammis as offensive line coach.

As run game coordinator and offensive line coach, Sammis led a strong rushing attack at Williams & Mary this season with the team averaging 203.7 yards per game on the ground, best in the Colonial Athletic Conference.

'Gordie Sammis is a great fit for our football program," Mora said. "He is hard-working, caring and has a track record of helping student-athletes realize and reach their potential. I know he will make a positive impact on our team, and specifically our offensive line."

Sammis, played on the offensive line at Virginia from 2003-07 and was later a graduate assistant there. He coached the tight ends and offensive line at Columbia (2012-14), the offensive lines at Virginia Military Institute (2015-16) and Lafayette (2016-18) before going to William & Mary before the 2019 season.

"I am excited to join Coach Mora's staff and can't wait to become a part of the UConn community," Sammis said. "The future of UConn football is bright and I'm looking forward to working with a great group of student-athletes and coaches."

The Huskies (1-11) averaged 100.8 rushing yards per game in 2021, ranked 120th among 130 FBS teams.

Sammis' hiring is pending UConn's onboarding process. He will join Nick Charlton (associate head coach/offensive coordinator and quarterbacks), John Marinelli (tight ends), Dalton Hilliard (defensive backs), E.J. Barthel (running backs), John Allen (receivers/passing game coordinator), Siriki Diabate (linebackers) and Preston Pehrson (general manager) on Mora's staff, with several more spots to fill.

Dom Amore can reached at damore@courant.com

PATRIOTS

How QB Jones, Pats are approaching bye week

By Steve Hewitt Boston Herald

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. -After 13 consecutive games to open the season, the Patriots are one of four teams this week with the latest bye week in NFL history.

There are different ways they will use the time off. But maybe more so than any other year, rest and recovery is certainly a priority in the 12 days between Monday's win in Buffalo and next Saturday's game against the

"Yeah, get your rest this week," said special teams captain Matthew Slater. "Our guys have been going at it really hard and I think this is a good time for our team to try to get healthy and get our legs underneath us."

Added Lawrence Guy: "We've been going since July, so it's been nonstop pounding on the body. I think the best thing about the bye is that you have this time to recover."

They will certainly rest, and spend some deserved time with their families, but the Patriots also aren't using the layoff as a vacation. As the No. 1 seed in the AFC with four games left, they know that no day can be wasted at this stage of the season. Doing some self-evaluation, and getting a head start on planning for the Colts - who are also off

this week — is also a priority.
"Devin (McCourty)

mentioned this today to the guys, it's important that we keep in mind what lies ahead," Slater said. "We worked very hard to get to this point in the season, we've been through a lot, we've endured, but we're nowhere near close to where we'd like to be, and I think the most important games of the season, the most important times on the practice field, all that lies ahead of us.

"During this week, let's keep that in mind, let's do some self scouting, and let's try to put ourselves in a better position than we are now, 10 days from now when it comes time for us to compete again."

Guy thankful for nomination: Lawrence Guy certainly doesn't take his nomination for the NFL's Walter Payton Man of the Year award lightly.

The veteran Guy, who joined the Patriots' defensive line in 2017, has been a fixture in the New England community since his arrival. which has included starting a foundation with his wife Andrea to provide resources and opportunity for disadvantaged families. It means a lot for Guy to be nominated, especially when he thinks about being associated with Payton and an award that recognizes what he's done off the field.

GIANTS COMMENTARY

Mara should see this rebuild through

By Pat Leonard

New York Daily News

TUCSON, Ariz. - John Mara's reaction to the 2021 Giants season will be defined by his perspective on it and his expectations for it.

If the team president still genuinely believes that he fielded a playoff-worthy roster this fall, then he would presumably view this 4-8 team as underachieving.

If he believes that, blowing it all up again would be on the table for the Giants team practicing here all week at the University of Arizona ahead of Sunday's game at the Los Angeles Chargers.

But if Mara is realistic, and if he comes to grips with this year's roster still being grossly incomplete, then he will re-commit to this rebuild and exercise patience with head coach Joe Judge and this fledgling program.

And I do believe Mara, for all of his recent missteps, sees the value of staying true to the course that he himself set for this organization in January 2020 with his out-of-the-box hiring of Judge.

This is the same owner who oversaw two Super Bowl runs in five years between 2007 and 2011, after all. He's been the steward of a gold standard winner before and could be again.

There is pressure on everyone in the Giants' building, obviously, as evidenced by the firing of offensive coordinator Jason Garrett two weeks ago. Mara and co-owner Steve Tisch want victories. They want

Dave Gettleman is no doubt finished as GM for a lot of reasons, namely because the offensive line is worse than when he arrived four years ago, a failure that has compromised the evaluation of the oft-injured quarterback Gettleman drafted, Daniel Jones.

But Giants fans have booed Mara twice during halftime ceremonies at MetLife Stadium this season because they are telling him the dysfunction is his fault and responsibility.

They see the pattern now and they are letting Mara hear it. He has to recognize that the Giants won't step off their recent hamster wheel of irrelevance if they continue repeating the same

mistakes. The pattern is the Giants' constant inability to self-assess, believing they are close to competing when they are still years away. It is also their

rush to find quick fixes when the only solution is smarter team-building, better player evaluation and patience.

Mara fired Ben McAdoo and Pat Shurmur during and after their second seasons, respectively. Both coaches benched Eli Manning and lost too many games and paid the price, even though Mara signed off on the coaches' calls.

Mara has since admitted he didn't give McAdoo a fair shake. His 2016 team is the only Giants squad to make the playoffs since 2011. Shurmur had shortcomings but helped draft and develop Jones and got much more out of the QB in one season than Garrett did in parts of

Emboldened by nearly winning the NFC East with a 6-10 record last season, and impacted financially by the COVID-19 shutdown, Mara and the Giants reacted by going on a sudden spending spree in free agency this past spring.

They viewed their division as weak and vulnerable, and they wanted to give fans a reason to come back to their seats. So they funneled money into their roster, forcing them to restructure numerous contracts to stay within budget and hamstringing their financial flexibility in 2022.

But their optimism was born more out of hope and restlessness than reality.

Disgusted fans who want to see Mara blow it all up again are only taking the lead of the organization, which sold hope in playoff contention to them.

Not that Judge is without his faults or flaws.

The amount of injuries on this year's team is worth examining, no doubt, especially after Judge's rookie year team had been so healthy in 2020.

Judge has to stop punting from the other team's 46-yard line on 4th and 2, too, as he did in the second half of Sunday's road loss to the Miami Dolphins. That is counterproductive.

There are game and time management issues to clean up, as well. And the offense needs to score touchdowns somehow, someway.

However, if Mara is viewing this season with the proper perspective and context, he will see progress in Judge's team playing hard through adversity for a second straight season.

They haven't lost back-toback games since mid-October. They are 3-3 in their last six. They are more competitive in their division.



Mostly sunny in the morning, then 38 increasing cloudiness Northwest wind at 5 to 10 mph.

40/32

26°

Mostly cloudy and seasonable, chance for a shower. Showers around at night.

FRIDAY

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LOW around.

Mostly cloudy, becoming very breezy and mild with showers

SATURDAY

37

61 LOW

Early clouds give way to a mostly sunny sky, windy.

SUNDAY

LOW

30

Mostly sunny, breezy and

51 seasonably mild.

MONDAY

M: M:

LOW **32°** throughout your day.

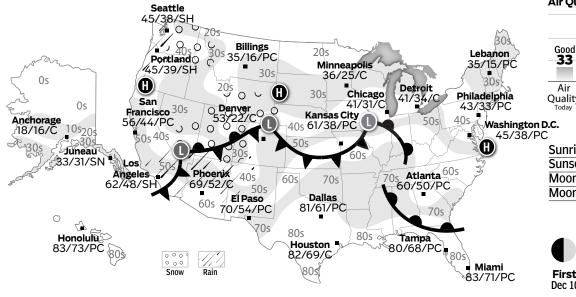
CONNECTICUT * WEATHER

For the latest weather news

courant.com/weather

-Gary Lessor

YOURCAST Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows. Worcester BOSTON Springfield 38/25 35/25 Provincetown 40/32 **Enfield** PROVIDENCE **MASSACHUSETTS** Torrington 41/28 35/26 ■ HARTFORD Willimantic **RHODE** 38/26 ■ **38/25** ISI AND Manchester Hyannis 39/26 Waterbury 40/32 CONNECTICUT 37/27 Middletown 40/26 Newport Martha's **New Haven** Vineyard ,41/31 Groton Nantucket 41/28 Old Saybrook 41/31 41/37 40/30 41/34 🖳 Milford Block Island 40/30 40/34 ■ Greenwich



OUTLOOK

High pressure will bring partly sunny skies and cool temperatures on Thursday. It will be breezy at times. A warm front will advance toward the region overnight causing mostly cloudy skies and the chance for a shower late at night or early Friday morning. It will remain mostly cloudy on Friday with temperatures moderating back to seasonable levels. The warm front will move through the state Saturday morning allowing temperatures to turn unseasonably mild with highs close to or exceeding the 60 degree mark, but there will be plenty of clouds and scattered showers.

ALMANAC

Precipitation In Inches Total Normal Yesterday (by 7 p.m.) 0.02 0.14 Month to date 0.41 1.12 Total this year 52.40 44.09 Snowfall In Inches

Yesterday (by 4 p.m.) Trace 0.2 Total this year Trace 4.0 Precipitation, temperature at Windsor Locks

Air Quality Forecast For Today

Low

10

-33	1	18
Air	Ultraviolet	Wind
Quality Today	Index Today	Chill Today
D.C.		
С	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise	7:06 a.m.	7:07 a.m.
Sunset		4:20 p.m.
	11:57 a.m.	
Moonset	10:26 p.m.	11:35 p.m.

Moon Phase						
First	Full	Last	New			
Dec 10	Dec 18	Dec 26	Jan 2			

Stockholm

Svdnev

Tokyo

Toronto

Warsaw

Vancouver

63 54 PC

76 52 S

39 27 R

23 18 PC

12 3 SN

С

45 39

52 45

30-day Precipitation History In Inches 0.8 0.6 0.4

Tides	High	Low	Гетр.
N.L. State Pier	1:00 a.m.	7:28 a.m.	51°
	1:24 p.m.	8:10 p.m.	
Saybrook Jetty	2:11 a.m.	8:21 a.m.	49°
	2:35 p.m.	9:03 p.m.	
Connecticut River	4:54 a.m.	a.m.	
at Portland	5:18 p.m.	12:07 p.m.	
Madison	2:32 a.m.	8:36 a.m.	48°
	2:52 p.m.	9:14 p.m.	
New Haven	2:52 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	47°
	3:12 p.m.	9:38 p.m.	
Stamford	2:56 a.m.	9:14 a.m.	49°
	3:16 p.m.	9:52 p.m.	

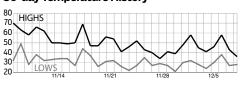
River Stage at Hartford: 4.95 feet at 5:30 p.m.

Boating	L.I. Souna W	L.I. Souna E	B. I. 500na
Weather	PCloudy	PCloudy	PCloudy
Wind	NW, 5-15	NW, 5-15	NW, 10-15
Seas	1-2 ft.	2-3 ft.	2-4 ft.

Temperature	High	Low
Wednesday	36 at 2:21 p.m	28 at 5:00 a.m
Normal for date	43	27
Record for date	63 in 1966	-3 in 1964
A year ago	32	25
Range this year	99	1

Last **Heating Degree Days** Season Normal Season For July 1 - Dec 8 1399 1202 1190

30-day Temperature History



Atmosphere High Low Barometer 30.18 at 12 a.m. 29.90 at 4 p.m. Dew point 29° at 6 p.m. 21° at 12 a.m.

AROUND THE WORLD Today's forecast in cities not included in the maps above:

	_	Baltimore	45 31 PC	Nashville	62 54 PC	San Juan	85 75 SH	Budapest	36 33 SF
		Bismarck	36 13 PC	New Orleans	76 66 C	Tucson	69 50 PC	Buenos Aires	82 70 C
20	0 PC	Boise Buffalo	39 26 PC 35 33 C	New York Okla. City	44 36 PC 74 48 PC	WORLD		Cairo Cancun	70 54 S 84 75 PC
		Charleston	62 49 PC	Omaha	52 32 PC	Amsterdam	43 34 SH	Dubai	84 63 S
		Cincinnati	49 44 PC	Orlando	80 63 C	Athens	66 50 S	Dublin	46 39 SH
		Cleveland	43 36 C	Pittsburgh	42 37 PC	Bangkok	88 73 S	Edinburgh	43 34 SH
		Indianapolis	51 40 PC	Raleigh	51 35 PC	Barbados	86 73 S	Helsinki	25 23 C
71	2010	Jacksonville	70 58 PC	St. Louis	61 45 PC	Beijing	45 30 S	Hong Kong	73 64 S
		Las Vegas	58 41 C	Salt Lake City	39 28 SN	Beirut	68 58 C	Istanbul	59 52 C
35	26 PC	Miami Beach	82 73 PC	San Antonio	81 63 PC	Berlin	32 30 SF	Jerusalem	54 48 SH
		Milwaukee	44 30 C	San Diego	61 52 SH	Bermuda	73 63 PC	Johannesburg	79 61 T
44	29 PC	KEY: S Sunny,	C Cloudy, P	C Partly Cloudy	/, R Rain, SH	Showers, SN	Snow, SF Sr	now Flurries, T	Γ-storms
	30 29 20 34 28 9 36 41	30 10 PC 29 19 PC 20 0 PC 34 21 PC 28 13 C 9 1 C 36 19 PC 41 28 PC 35 26 PC 59 40 PC 44 29 PC	30 10 PC 29 19 PC 20 0 PC 34 21 PC 28 13 C 9 1 C 36 19 PC 41 28 PC 41 28 PC 35 26 PC Milwaukee	30 10 PC Baltimore 45 31 PC Bismarck 36 13 PC 20 0 PC Boise 39 26 PC 34 21 PC Charleston 62 49 PC Charleston 62 49 PC Gincinnati 49 44 PC 36 19 PC Indianapolis Jacksonville 70 58 PC Las Vegas 58 41 C Milwaukee 44 30 C	30 10 PC Baltimore 45 31 PC Nashville	30 10 PC Baltimore 45 31 PC Nashville 62 54 PC	30 10 PC Baltimore 45 31 PC Nashville 62 54 PC San Juan	30 10 PC PC PC PC PC PC PC PC	30 10 PC 29 19 PC 20 0 PC 36 13 PC New Orleans 76 66 C Tucson 69 50 PC Buenos Aires

Montreal Moscow Nassau

7-1 8-2

7-2 7-2 7-2 .778 .778 .778

3-4

.800

.750 .667

84 70 PC 75 50 PC New Delhi Paris 46 41 C Prague 34 30 SF 81 68 Rio de Janeiro Rome 48 39 R Seoul Singapore 91 75 SH

Kingston Lisbon

London

Madrid

Milan

Mexico City

Weather page produced by WESTERN CONNECTICUT UNIVERSITY Weather Center

31 28 PC

75 63 SH

68 47 PC

54 41 S

34 33 SN

30 29 S

SATURDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE CIAC TOURNAMENTS

FOOTBALL

At Trumbull High School Class S-Final Bloomfield (12-0), 11a.m. Class **LL**—Final No. 3Darien (11-1) vs. No. 1Fairfield

Prep (11-1), 3p.m. At Veteran's Stadium, New Britain Class L-Final No. 5Windsor (11-1) vs. No. 3Maloney (11-1), 11a.m. Class M-Final No. 2Rockville (10-2) vs. No. 1Killingly

(11-0), 3p.m. **TUESDAY'S LATE**

COLLEGE RESULTS

MEN'S BASKETBALL YALE 71. ALBANY 52 **RHODE ISLAND 72, SACRED HEART 62**

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL **TRINITY 74. FISHER 58**

ST. JOSEPH 71, MITCHELL 69
QUINNIPIAC 69, NORTHEASTERN 58 ALBERTUS MAGNUS 3, TRINITY 1 TRINITY 8, AMHERST 1

WEDNESDAY'S COLLEGE RESULTS

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

National Invitational Championship-Third Round UCONN 3, NORTH FLORIDA 1 (25-23, 20-25, 25-21, 25-21)

QUINNIPIAC 72, DARTMOUTH 69 FAIRFIELD 74, HOLY CROSS 59 UMASS-DARTMOUTH AT EASTERN,

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Big East-Big 12Battle **WEST VIRGINIA 56, UCONN 53**

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL **RHODE ISLAND 84. HARTFORD 49** EASTERN 60, UMASS-DARTMOUTH 50 **YALE 65. LIU 37**

WOMEN'S HOCKEY
BOSTON UNIVERSITY AT YALE, LATE MEN'S SOUASH WESLEYAN 8, CONN. COLLEGE 1 WESLEYAN 8, CONN. COLLEGE 1

THURSDAY'S **COLLEGE SCHEDULE**

MEN'S BASKETBALL Manhattanville at Wesleyan, 7p.m. Elms at St. Joseph, 7p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

UConn at Georgia Tech. 7p.m. St. Joseph at MCLA, 7p.m. Fairfield at Indiana, 7p.m.

FRIDAY'S COLLEGE

SCHEDULE WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL National Invitational Championship-

Quarterfinal UConn at Valparaiso, 8p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Union at Trinity, 5p.m.

MEN'S HOCKEY Wesleyan at Plymouth State, 7p.m. Brown at Yale, 7p.m. Quinnipiac at LIU, 7:45p.m.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY Suffolk at Trinity, 7p.m.

SATURDAY'S **COLLEGE SCHEDULE**

MEN'S BASKETBALL

CCNY at Trinity, 1p.m. Central at Providence, 2p.m. Maine at Ouinnipiac, 2p.m. Hartford at UNLV, 3p.m. Wesleyan at Farmingdale State, 3p.m. Eastern at Plymouth State, 3p.m. Anna Maria at St. Joseph, 3p.m. Never Forget Tribute Classic (Newark, N.J.) St. Bonaventure vs. UConn. 3:30p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Eastern at Plymouth State, 1p.m. Anna Maria at St. Joseph, 1p.m. Quinnipiac at Providence, 1p.m. UMass Lowell at Yale, 2p.m. Gordon at Trinity, 3p.m. Wesleyan at Williams, 3p.m. Never Forget Tribute Classic (Newark, N.J.) UCLA vs. UConn, 1p.m.

MEN'S HOCKEY

Hobart at Trinity, 4p.m. LIU at Quinnipiac, 7p.m

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Wesleyan at Manhattanville, 2p.m. Johnson & Wales at Trinity, 7p.m

WRESTLING

Williams at Trinity, 7:30p.m.							
AHL							
Standings Atlantic	GP	w	L	OTL	.SOL	.PT	SF
Springfield	19	14	3	2	0	30	
Hartford	18	12	4	2	0	26	
Providence	17	8	5	3	1	20	.!

Standings					
Atlantic	GP	W	L	OT	L SOL PTS PC1
Springfield	19	14	3	2	0 30 .789
Hartford	18	12	4	2	0 26 .722
Providence	17	8	5	3	1 20 .588
Hershey	17	8	6	2	1 19 .559
Charlotte	21	10	9	2	0 22 .524
W-B/Scranton	18	8	8	0	2 18 .500
Bridgeport	22	7	12	1	2 17 .386
Lehigh Valley	19	3	11	4	1 11 .289
North	GP	W	L	OT	L SOL PTS PC1
Utica	18	16	1	1	0 33 .917
Rochester	17	11	6	0	0 22 .647
Cleveland	19	9	5	2	3 23 .605
Toronto	17	9	6	1	1 20 .588
Laval	20	9	9	2	0 20 .500
Belleville	20	9	11	0	0 18 .450
Syracuse	17	6	8		1 15 .441
Central	GP	W			L SOL PTS PC1
Chicago	20	14	4	1	1 30 .750
Manitoba	20	13	6	1	0 27 .675
Iowa	18	9	8	1	0 19 .528
Grand Rapids	19	8	8	2	1 19 .500
Rockford	18	8	8	1	1 18 .500
Texas	18	7	8	2	1 17 .472
Milwaukee	20	7	12	1	0 15 .375
Pacific	GP	W			L SOL PTS PC1
Stockton	17	13	2	2	0 28 .824
Ontario	17	12	4	0	1 23 .735
Henderson	16	8	6	1	1 18 .563
Tucson	16	8	7	1	0 17 .531
San Diego	17	8	8	1	0 17 .500
Colorado	19	8	8	1	2 19 .500
Bakersfield	15	6	6	1	2 15 .500

17 7 7 2 1 17 .500 16 6 9 1 0 13 .406 **MONDAY'S LATE** RESULT

Abbotsford

GRAND RAPIDS 4, CLEVELAND 1 TUESDAY'S LATE RESULTS STOCKTON 10. SAN JOSE 1 ONTARIO AT BAKERSFIELD, PPD.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS CLEVELAND AT SYRACUSE, LATE

UTICA AT ROCHESTER, LATE MANITOBA AT LAVAL, LATE IOWA AT ROCKFORD, LATE THURSDAY'S **SCHEDULE**

Chicago at Texas, 8p.m **COLLEGE BASKETBALL**

Big East basketball standings MEN'S **Team** Providence CONF CPCT OVR 0-0.000 9-1 .900 DePaul 0-0.000 7-1 7-1 .875 Seton Hall 0-0.000

Xavier **UConn** 0-0.000 Creighton 0-0.000 Marquette Villanova 0-0.000 St. John's 0-0.000

Georgetown

TUESDAY 'S LATE **RESULTS**

0-0.000

PROVIDENCE 68, VERMONT 58 DEPAUL 87, DUQUESNE 67 VILLANOVA 67, SYRACUSE 53 BUTLER 66, OKLAHOMA 62 (OT)

XAVIER 96, BALL STATE 50 UMBC AT GEORGETOWN, LATE Big East-Big 12Battle WEST VIRGINIA 56, UCONN 53 MARQUETTE AT KANSAS STATE, LATE

Monmouth at St. John's, 8:30p.m. Big East-Big 12Battle

rexas at Seton Hail, 6:30p.m.						
WOMEN'S						
Team	CONF CPCT	OVR	PCT			
DePaul	2-0 1.000	7-2	.778			
Marquette	2-0 1.000	6-2	.750			
Creighton	2-0 1.000	5-2	.714			
UConn	1-0 1.000	5-1	.833			
St. John's	1-0 1.000	4-4	.500			
Georgetown	1-1.500	4-4	.500			
Providence	1-1.500	5-5	.500			
Xavier	0-2.000	4-5	.444			
Seton Hall	0-2.000	3-4	.429			
Villanova	0-2.000	3-5	.375			

0-2.000 0-8 .000 **WEDNESDAY'S** RESULTS

XAVIER 82, NIAGARA 78 PROVIDENCE 59, BROWN 43 IONA AT ST. JOHN'S, CANCELED MARQUETTE AT MILWAUKEE, LATE

THURSDAY'S **SCHEDULE**

UConn at Georgia Tech, 7p.m. DePaul at Kentucky, 7p.m. Villanova at James Madison, 7p.m. George Washington at Georgetown,

HOCKEYEAST

	<u> </u>		
Standings MEN'S			
Team OG	iP OVR CO	SP CONF C	PTS
Northeastern	18 13-4-1	11 7-3-1	23
UMass	148-4-2	10 6-2-2	22
UMass Lowell	148-3-3	9 6-2-1	19
Providence	19 12-7-0	11 6-5-0	19
Boston College	15 8-5-2	95-3-1	17
Boston Universit	y 17 6-9-2	2 12 5-5-2	16
UConn	148-6-0	9 5-4-0	14
Merrimack	14 6-8-0	9 3-6-0	11
New Hampshire	177-9-1	11 3-7-1	9
Vermont	14 3-9-2	82-4-2	8
Maine	15 1-11-3	11 1-8-2	7

TUESDAY'S LATE RESULT **BOSTON COLLEGE 5, BROWN 2 WEDNESDAY'S** RESULT UMASS AT MERRIMACK, LATE

FRIDAY'S SCHEDULE

UMass Lowell at Vermont, 7p.m. Princeton at Providence, 7p.m. Union at Maine, 7:30p.m.
Boston College at Boston University, 7:30p.m.

WOMEN'S OGP OVR CGP CONF CPTS Northeastern 19 16-2-1 14 11-2-1 Boston University 17 9-5-3 15 8-4-3 UConn 20 14-4-2 13 8-3-2 Boston College 17 10-7-0 12 8-4-0 17 8-7-2 10 5-4-1 17 7-5-5 10 4-4-2 Vermont Providence Maine 19 6-12-1 12 4-7-1

WEDNESDAY'S RESULT **BOSTON UNIVERSITY AT YALE, LATE**

Holy Cross

Merrimack 20 5-14-1 15 4-10-1 New Hampshire 17 6-9-2 13 4-8-1

16 2-14-0 12 1-11-0

15 15

WOLYNIEC

Rockville seniors James Wheeler (wearing a 1996 All-State linebacker Greg Wolyniec jersey) and Josh Gearin (wearing a Bill Romanowski iersey) at football practice Tuesday at Rockville High. The Rams will play in the Class M state championship game Saturday against Killingly. HARTFORD COURANT

Rockville

from Page 1

off a 1-9 season. They were embarrassed to wear their football jerseys in school.

"When I got here, those seniors, they got ridiculed and made fun of because they had gone 12-70 in last four years," Knickerbocker said. "They weren't getting kids to come out. They didn't have a lot of pride. When I was hired, [superintendent] Dr. [Joseph] Macaray said to me, 'I don't care about wins and losses, I want the kids to

feel pride when they put the uniform on." They do now. In 2018, the Rams went 7-3. In 2019, they went 11-0 and advanced to the state semifinals where they lost to Weston 37-0. After no football last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Rams are 10-2 and a No. 2 seed in the Class M playoffs this season.

Knickerbocker brought back all the old Rockville traditions. The team rings a bell on the sidelines after a win. There is now a live woolly ram mascot from the school's vocational-agriculture program at every game. Knickerbocker researched decades of Rockville football and came up with a list of top players. He had shirts made with the former stars' names on them, and his top players that week would get to wear them. It was a history teacher's labor of love, and it has paid off.

"We had a couple snow days and I was literally in [the newspaper archives] for days," Knickerbocker said. "I went back to 1891, that was the earliest game I could find. I was able to piece a ton of it together. In my coach's office inside I have all those articles and that's how we started the first year, showing the kids this.

"They kept telling me how bad they were, and I was like, 'No, you weren't bad. Look at this guy, look at that guy, look at this year, look at that year.' That's how it all started. It's been little by little each year."

Knickerbocker tracked down the original bell that was rung after victories. It was in front of the town historical society and had a big crack in it. It had been at the high school for years, but the ringing of the bell eventually became disruptive after games

when opponents would beat Rockville.

"They used it for all sports. If they won, they'd ring the bell," Knickerbocker said. "If the opposing team would win, they would sprint over and ring the bell and then there'd be a melee in the parking lot. So they had a cage around the bell for years, then they got rid of the bell.

That was something we looked at bringing back, just bringing back tradition that was connected with success."

The booster club bought a new bell for the team. "The first day of our first game in 2018,

[former head coach] Tom [Dunn] and [former assistant] Art [Wheelock] rang the bell back into service," he said. "That was a really cool moment for our team.

"The ram, I didn't have much to do with except to say, 'Hey, when are we getting the ram back?' Our principal Jason Magao has been on it, and vo-ag has been on it. Something happened and the ram was gone for 20-25 years. We just got the ram back this year."

And the players listen, even if maybe there is sometimes a sense of, "What does this have to do with us?"

"I like history so I'm one of the guys who actually likes when he talks about history," said senior quarterback Matt Ryan, who was wearing the Mikulski shirt at practice on Tuesday. "We have a very proud history, and we want to bring it back.

Knickerbocker has been in touch with many alumni. Some have come back to games and talked to the players about pride and tradition. Members of the 2019 team were at the last playoff game.

Romanowski told Knickerbocker he would be there if the Rams made it to the state final.

"He sent a video to our seniors last year after the COVID stuff," Knickerbocker said. "He sent us a motivational video this summer saying if we made it, he said, 'When you're in the state finals, I'll be there.' So I did text him and said, 'Hey, we're here.' He says he's coming. The kids are fired up about that."

Lori Riley can be reached at lriley@courant.com.

FLAVOR

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These cakey chocolate chip cookies from Lidia Bastianich have a secret ingredient: ricotta cheese. GRETCHEN MCKAY/PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

NO-FUSS DISHES

Lidia Bastianich keeps it simple in her latest cookbook

By Gretchen Mckay | Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Cookbook author, TV host and celebrity chef Lidia Bastianich is one of the most famous Italian cooks in the U.S. She's also a successful restaurateur, with eight restaurants specializing in Italian and Italian-American cuisine.

Yet when she prepares meals for her own family at home, she's like the rest of us: She likes to keep it simple, with straightforward, no-fuss recipes that don't require impeccable technique or fancy ingredients.

Take cannellini beans, for instance. Found in every classic minestrone and many Italian salads, the white kidney-shaped legume can also add an inexpensive punch of protein to a plate of greens or make a fish dish more substantial.



Bastianich

"They are perfectly good and delicious from the can." Bastianich says on a recent phone call from her home in New York.

Using food right from a can

or box (such as oven-ready dried pasta) also streamlines the cooking process while eliminating the pot and pans that tend to pile up with scratch cooking.

Her latest cookbook, "Lidia's a Pot, a Pan, and a Bowl" (Knopf, \$30), hit store shelves in October. It has 100-plus homey and easy-to-prepare recipes that require fewer steps and ingredients than her previous tomes, but still deliver incredible Italian flavor. As she writes in the book's forward: "Sometimes, you just want to cook something that doesn't leave you with a pile of dishes."

This is Bastianich's 16th cookbook and arguably one of her most user-friendly, streamlined to be "as straightforward to cook as possible" and using a minimal number of pots and pans. It was born, she says, out of her desire to carry on her relationship with her fans, many of whom love to cook along with her on her various cooking programs at PBS Food and her YouTube channel, Tutto Lidia.

"I get this feedback, You make me feel so secure in my kitchen.' So I can't help myself. I think, What can I give them next so they stay in the kitchen?"

While the theme of simplicity will likely resonate with home cooks who churned out three

meals a day at the height of the pandemic, Bastianich actually started work on the cookbook before the coronavirus shutdown. But much of the testing with her daughter and co-author, Tanya Bastianich Manuali, and longtime PBS culinary producer Amy Stevenson was done during quarantine in her home in Queens, New York.

"I have a large house," she says. "We opened all the windows and put the masks on and that was that. We worked around it."

She chose to focus on one-pot dishes — meals made in a single skillet, Dutch oven, baking sheet or roasting pan — because the approach fits the busy times we live in. She also liked the creative challenge of creating simple, minimally messy dishes with layered, harmonizing flavors.

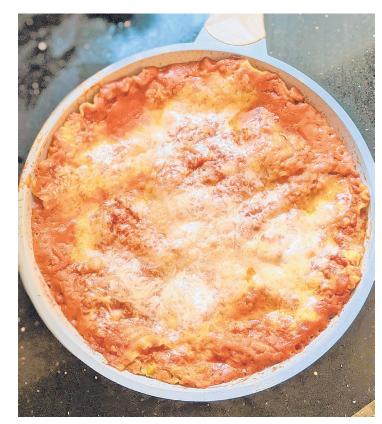
That meant eliminating as many chef secret techniques as possible, focusing on the timing and sequence of ingredients, and making cooks realize it's OK to substitute different vegetables or proteins to accommodate personal tastes and budget. For instance, she uses cod in a seafood dish instead of salmon or shrimp.

It also required constantly thinking, "How did my grandmother or mother cook for the family?" when she was growing up in Istria, a mountainous region of Croatia that was once part of Italy.

"It was fun to be able to use my years of experience in a commercial kitchen and traveling, and synthesize it down to a simple baking pan that everyone can relate to," she says.

The journey took her at least one place she never thought she'd go: into the Italian food aisle for oven-ready lasagna noodles, which she turned into a knock-out skillet lasagna recipe that comes together in about 45

While fresh is always better, the process of making



Oven-ready lasagna noodles are cooked in marinara on the stoyetop with three cheeses in this one-pot pasta dish.

dough from scratch takes time and practice. Bastianich was surprised to find how well dishes turned out with pre-cooked noodles and shells, so long as you make sure there is enough liquid in the baking pan for the pasta to cook in the oven. She stuffs them with three cheeses, parsley and scallions.

The chef also tried her hand at Instant Pot cooking for the first time during the pandemic, and gives tips to readers willing to experiment with adapting some of the cookbook's recipes to the electric multicooker.

Almost all of the recipes can be served as a one-course meal. Many also could shine as an appetizer or side dish in a multicourse feast, or be portioned and frozen for a quick leftover dinner. All are Bastianich favorites that have their roots in the Italian cooking the chef is famous for.

Along with a chapter on eggs, the cookbook dishes up soup and salad recipes with an eye toward seasonality. It also takes a deep dive into seafood and unfamiliar fish such as monkfish, which she cooks with cannellini beans into a savory stew. There also are more than 20 meat and poultry dishes.

You'll find a wide assortment of primi pasta and risotto cishes, which are the cornerstone of

Italian cooking and perfectly suited for one-pot cooking: chicken eggplant Parmesan, gemelli with pesto and tomato, chicken cacciatore and zucchini bread lasagna, to name a few. There's also a recipe for pan pizza.

Ever the teacher, Bastianich sprinkles tips and tricks throughout, and also offers substitution and serving suggestions.

"It's for everybody, even the beginners," she says.

As for the cooking vessels themselves, the chef is quick to point out that her book takes an "expansive" view of one-pot cooking. Some of the recipes actually require an extra bowl or plate during prep, cooking or plating.

Cooking, Bastianich says, should always be fun, welcoming and delicious, as well as an expression of your love and affection for the people around your table.

"I see the connection when people get together, and feel nourished in every way," she

She hopes her latest cookbook will help home cooks feel while realizing that good cooking doesn't have to be complicated. "It's all about the comfort zone," she says.

Chocolate chip ricotta cookies

Lidia Bastianich gives an all-American favorite Italian flair in this cakey cookie recipe with ricotta cheese. Even my daughter, Catherine, who professes to detest ricotta, loved how it makes the cookies soft and smooth.

Makes: 3 dozen cookies

1 stick unsalted butter, at room

temperature 1 cup granulated sugar 2 large eggs 8 ounces fresh ricotta 1 teaspoon vanilla extract 21/2 cups all-purpose flour 2 teaspoons baking powder Kosher salt 1 cup mini chocolate chips (or more to taste) Confectioners' sugar for dusting, optional

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line two baking sheets with parchment. 2. Cream butter and sugar in a large bowl with a hand-held mixer on high speed until light and fluffy, about 2 minutes. Reduce speed to medium and add eggs. Beat until smooth. Add ricotta and vanilla and beat to combine. 3. Sift the flour and baking powder right into the bowl, and add a pinch of salt. Mix on low speed until just combined. Stir in chocolate chips by hand.

4. Drop cookies in heaping tablespoons onto the baking sheets, leaving about 2 inches between cookies, in three rows of five. Bake, rotating the trays from top to bottom halfway through, until cookies are puffed and golden at the edges, about 18 minutes. Remove to a wire rack to cool.

5. Dust cookies with confectioners' sugar before serving, if desired.

Skillet lasagna

Everyone loves lasagna, but a traditional recipe is tough to make on a weeknight. This skillet recipe comes together in about 45 minutes using oven-ready

For a heartier dish, Lidia suggests adding a few crumbled links of Italian sausage or browned mushrooms. If you don't like peas or simply want to veg it up, add a few handfuls of baby spinach to each layer. Be sure to allow it to sit for at least 15 minutes before serving, so the lasagna can more easily be cut into portions.

Makes: 4 servings

Extra-virgin olive oil, for coating skillet 3 1/4 cups marinara sauce, homemade or store-bought 1 cup fresh ricotta 1 cup shredded low-moisture mozzarella, divided 1/2 cup freshly grated Grana Padano 1 large egg, beaten 1/2 cup frozen baby peas

2 tablespoons chopped fresh Italian parsley Kosher salt

Red pepper flakes 12 sheet no-boil (oven-ready) lasagna

1. Heat a large nonstick skillet over medium heat. Add enough olive oil to make a thin film on the bottom of the skillet. Add 1 ¾ cups marinara with ¼ cup water and bring to a simmer over medium heat. 2. In a bowl. combine ricotta, ½ cup

mozzarella, ¼ cup grated Grana Padano, egg, peas and parsley. Season with salt and a pinch of red pepper flakes, and mix well.

3. Layer three of the noodles in the skillet over the sauce. (I had to break the ends to fit.) Dollop 1/3 of the ricotta mixture on top of the pasta in the skillet, and spread it out to cover noodles; then drizzle with 1/4 cup of the tomato sauce. Make two more layers, ending with noodles. Drizzle with remaining 11/2 cups sauce. Top with the remaining 1/2 cup mozzarella and ¼ cup grated cheese. 4. Cover skillet and simmer until pasta

is al dente (test by piercing the center with a paring knife), 20-25 minutes. 5. Preheat broiler. Sprinkle remaining 1/4 cup grated cheese on top and broil the

lasagna until the top is nicely browned, about 1 minute. 6. Let sit for 15 minutes before cutting and serving so the lasagna will settle

and portions can be cut more easily.

more comfortable in the kitchen

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Good creamed spinach a revelation

By Meghan Splawn TheKitchn.com

There are two types of people in the world: people who love creamed spinach and people who haven't had good creamed spinach yet. Fortunately, I fall into the former and plan to convert everyone into the latter.

That's because good creamed spinach is nothing like the spinach you find wilting in a buffet tray. Good creamed spinach is pure luxury for your taste buds. It's tender cooked spinach swathed in a gentle sauce of aromatics and fresh spices, with just enough creamy half-andhalf and grated Parmesan cheese to hold the leaves together in an irresistibly savory sauce.

The best spinach for creamed spinach

Fresh baby spinach is best for making creamed spinach. Because it is already tender and less bitter than full-grown spinach, it requires less cooking and adds a creaminess to the finished dish. I also prefer to use baby spinach, as most bagged varieties are 10 ounces, which is the perfect amount for this recipe. If you've got full-sized leaves, feel free to use them — just chop them into bite-sized pieces before proceeding.

Can you use frozen spinach instead of fresh?

Yes! Thaw a 10-ounce package of frozen spinach and drain well. Make the cream sauce and add the thawed and drained spinach until heated through.

Cooking the spinach for creamed spinach

The spinach for creamed spinach needs to be cooked before making the cream sauce. Blanching, a quick dip in boiling water followed by a cool ice bath, is the preferred method for locking in color and tenderizing the spinach. You could saute or even steam the spinach, but I've found that blanching cooks faster and more evenly — especially if you are cooking a large batch of spin-

However, since both the boiling and the ice bath make the spinach wet, this moisture needs to be



Fresh baby spinach is best for making creamed spinach, but frozen works, too. LAUREN VOLO/THEKITCHN.COM.

squeezed off to ensure a creamy, not watery, creamed spinach. Use the same colander you drained the spinach in to press out the excess moisture before adding the spinach to the cream sauce.

Do I really have to cook the spinach first?

The short answer is "yes." You might be thinking, "Oh, the spinach will just wilt in the cream sauce; I don't really need to cook it first." Unfortunately, having thought the same thing myself, I have found the cooking and draining of the spinach before making the cream sauce to be critical. The spinach releases more water than you might think and makes a soupy, rather than creamy, sauce.

No cream in creamed spinach

You were expecting cream in this recipe or maybe even cream cheese, but both of these ingredients make for a dense, rather than smooth and creamy, creamed spinach. Instead, a combination of half-and-half and grated Parmesan cheese make a sauce that is both luxuriously creamy and still light. You could certainly try another hard, salty cheese here, such as Pecorino Romano or an aged manchego if you have either of those on hand.

As for the other flavorings, onions and garlic are quintessential creamed spinach aromatics, but you can play around a bit with the dried spices. I love a little nutmeg (brings out the nuttiness of the cheese), and the dry mustard and cayenne make the dish taste brighter with their touch of acidity. But you can certainly skip or substitute any of these as desired.

Can you thicken creamed spinach?

This creamed spinach is thickened with the help of a little flour, which is sprinkled over the onion mixture before the half-and-half is added. You'll then cook the mixture until it thickens enough to coat the back of the spatula.

Creamed spinach

Makes: 4 servings 10 ounces baby spinach

2 tablespoons unsalted butter 2 tablespoons grated yellow onion

2 teaspoons minced garlic 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour 1 cup half-and-half

½ cup finely grated Parmesan

¼ teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg ½ teaspoon dry mustard Pinch of cayenne pepper 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt ¼ teaspoon freshly ground black

1. Cook the spinach. Bring a 4-quart pot of salted water to a boil. Add the spinach in large handfuls until all the spinach is added, and cook for 15 seconds. 2. Drain pot of spinach in a colander

in the sink and immediately run the spinach under cold water to halt the cooking. Shake as much of the water off the spinach as you can by shaking the colander.

3. Using your hands, press the spinach against the sides of the colander in large handfuls. squeezing to remove as much excess moisture as possible. Set aside to drain further while making the cream sauce.

4. Make the cream sauce. Melt the butter in a medium frying pan over medium-high heat. Add the onion and garlic, and cook for 1 minute. Sprinkle the flour over the onion mixture and cook, stirring frequently, for 3 minutes. Stir in the half-and-half. Cook the mixture, stirring slowly and continuously, until the sauce comes to a boil and thickens enough to coat the back of the spatula, about 5 minutes. Reduce the heat to low and continue cooking until the sauce is thickened, about 2 minutes more. 5. Stir in the cheese, nutmeg, mustard, cayenne, salt and pepper. Add the spinach and mix well. Keep warm over very low heat. **Notes:** Instead of blanching fresh

spinach, thaw a 10-ounce package of frozen spinach and drain well. You can make the creamed spinach up to one day ahead. Press plastic wrap or parchment paper directly onto the surface to prevent a skin from forming. Cool to room temperature and then refrigerate. When ready to proceed, remove the plastic wrap and reheat over low heat until it just begins to bubble.

Squash, carrots sweeten brothy cold-weather soup

By Kary Osmond

Tribune Content Agency

I love it when a recipe comes together. Sometimes, when I start building a recipe, I'm not always sure how it will end. That was the case with this soup recipe.

I started by prepping vegetables I had on hand. I knew I wanted a brothy soup with chunks of tender vegetables. I added potatoes because I wanted a creamy texture to balance out the sweetness of the other vegetables, and I kept the recipe simple, only using bay leaves, salt and pepper to season the soup. Turns out, that's all it needed.

The soup has a delicious aroma and a sweet flavor from the carrots, onions and butternut squash. It's a perfect soup to ward off the chills.



The soup has a delicious aroma and a sweet flavor. KARY OSMOND/TNS

Vegetable soup

Makes: 4-6 servings 1 tablespoon olive oil

1 onion, finely chopped 1 large or 2 small carrots, peeled and diced

into 1/2-inch pieces 2 garlic cloves, minced

1/2 butternut squash, peeled and diced into 34-inch pieces

8 baby potatoes, quartered 1 (15-ounce) can chickpeas, drained and

rinsed 4 cups of vegetable stock 1 teaspoon salt

½ teaspoon pepper

2 bay leaves 1. Place a large pot over medium heat. Add

olive oil, onion, carrots and garlic. Cook and stir until onions are translucent and soft,

about 8 to 10 minutes.

2. Add butternut squash, potatoes, chickpeas, vegetable stock, salt, pepper and bay leaves. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat to medium-low, partially cover and simmer gently for 25 to 30 minutes or until potatoes and butternut squash are tender.

3. Remove from heat. Discard bay leaves and season to taste with salt and pepper. Notes: Cooked pearl barley, quinoa or brown rice can be added to thicken the soup. A splash of white wine added after the onions have softened will enhance the flavor of the soup. Add ¼ cup and allow to reduce for a few minutes before adding the butternut



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What makes a wine great?

By Eric Asimov The New York Times

What makes a wine great? It's a question that has intrigued anybody who has ever enjoyed a glass and paused to think about why that might be so.

Greatness has classically been associated with wines that showed complexity and nuance, that were able to age and evolve over many years, that touched the emotions, inspired contemplation and provoked discussion.

Great wines are thought to express a sense of place. That is, their distinctive characters are formed by the soil and its microbial life, climate, elevation and angle of inclination to the sun, as well as the culture that produced it.

At the least, all great wines ought to be balanced and harmonious, and they need to be refreshing.

That's just for a start. Wine lovers can go on ad nauseam discussing the subject, debating what constitutes balance and harmony. They can quickly move to ideas like objectivity and subjectivity; that is, whether the quality of a wine exists independently of one's perception of it.

It can quickly become philosophical, touching on questions that transcend wine, like "What is art?" and "What is beauty?"

I'm not a philosopher. Nor do I claim to know the answers to these questions - though I certainly have opinions. But I have been thinking about what makes a wine great, on my own and in discussions held over the last few years by Areni, a kind of wine think tank that engages in conversations with people from all walks of the wine

Areni's focus has been on how to define "fine wine," which is perhaps a more nebulous phrase. I prefer "great wine," as I think the phrase connotes something extraordinary more clearly. "Fine wine" is more of an industry term often used by marketers to mean an expensive wine.

While I don't dispute the components of the classic definition of a great wine, I have come to think that its use is limited. Great wines ought to have a sense of place, and they ought to refresh. But the sorts of wines that are age-worthy and develop complexity tend to be rare and increasingly expensive, and few people have access to them.

These sorts of bottles represent a tiny fraction of what's produced and consumed. At the same time, many people experience greatness in wines that don't necessarily fall under the classic definition. I know I do.

What I've come to believe is that greatness is not limited to only these transcendent, classically great bottles. Rather, greatness in a wine is defined by its ability to meet the needs of a particular occasion.

Can a wine be considered great if a producer pays no mind to social justice and environmental responsibility? Not to me. A producer who exploits workers, who abuses the environment or adds irresponsibly to the carbon footprint cannot make great wine.

If great wine expresses the culture and people who produced it, this must be the case. We are way past the time when all that mattered was what was in the glass.

On certain occasions. context is theoretical.

"Sometimes a great Beaujolais is a better choice than La Tâche," a friend once said to me years ago, referring to the grand cru Burgundy from Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, one

of the rarest, most expensive and highly prized wines in the world.

Few people would argue that any Beaujolais has the potential to be more profound than La Tâche. Most would leap at any opportunity to merely taste La Tâche because of its scarcity and its cost a bottle of the 2017, if you can find one, might sell for around \$5,000. I know I would.

But a wine like La Tâche, particularly for one who does not have a ready supply, demands a certain amount of ceremony and freedom from distraction to do it justice. I'd ideally want to share it with people I love. I could drink Beaujolais with anybody, and we'd be friends in 20 minutes. That's beauty in its own right.

Unlike a painting or sculpture, wine and food are transitory. They exist as potential until they are consumed, after which they live on in memory. In a sense, the greatest wines may be those that are most memorable.

For me, the most memorable constitute a motley collection. In the classical hierarchy, many of them fall into the modest category: a Barbera d'Alba, a

Mosel kabinett riesling, a red Burgundy from the Hautes-Côte de Nuits.

Why have I retained these memories? Because each of these bottles represented a crucial turning point for me in my personal journey with wine, opening doors that I had not known existed.

I've had memorable moments with bottles that would be considered grand — a 30-year-old 1955 La Mission Haut-Brion, my first encounter with a wine that had aged into a beautiful state over decades; an imperial of 1986 Lafite-Rothschild that answered the question of when the right time is to open a bottle; a 1959 Inglenook cabernet sauvignon, which demonstrated an alternative to the path that Napa Valley then seemed to be on; a 1988 Gentaz-Dervieux Côte-Rôtie, a wine born in rustic circumstances that nonetheless was hauntingly beautiful.

Yet simpler wines continue to resonate with me because they have so much to teach. Wines like a retsina from Greece, consumed in a casual restaurant in San Francisco; a silvaner from Alsace I had at a lunch in New York: a manzanilla at an outdoor

seafood restaurant in San Lúcar de Barrameda, Spain - each of these bottles was perfect in the moment and everlasting in memory.

Most recently, in September my wife and I traveled to Brussels to visit our son Peter. He's been in Europe for seven years, and we hadn't seen him for almost two because of the pandemic. We celebrated our reunion at Le Pigeon Noir in the Uccle neighborhood, an uncomplicated bistro that makes exquisite renditions of familiar French and Belgian dishes.

We drank a village Burgundy, a 2017 Marsannay from Domaine Trapet, a modest wine that was perfect for this meal — delicious enough to briefly note its qualities before moving on to other subjects.

Might we all have appreciated a spectacular classic? Of course, if I could have afforded one. But it might have been the center of attention, robbing the evening of its purpose, which was to focus on one another and to catch up. On this occasion, the Marsannay was a great wine, offering moments of grace without requiring the spotlight. It was the best wine for the occasion.













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The Bitterscotch cocktail pairs Scotch and vermouth with an amaro. Whether you're smoke-averse or all-in on them, these cocktails will satisfy. DAVID MALOSH/THE NEW YORK TIMES PHOTOS

By Rebekah Peppler The New York Times

moking in crowded bars may mostly (and happily) be a relic of the past, but the cocktail glass itself hasn't lost all elements of smoke - often imparted by ingredient alone. Many fall in one of two smokiness camps: You like insert Scotch or mezcal here — or you don't.

But the characteristics of smoke in drinks don't have to hit one over the head to be effective; rather they can be subtle and nuanced. Stocking your bar with a few foundational bottles of smoky-leaning spirits offers access to drinks that range from refreshing and bright to earthy,

herbal and vegetal. Start with mezcal, a spirit distilled from the agave plant. As with wine, a pour of small-scale mezcal provides direct connection to its terroir. "It almost tastes like you're outside; you can taste the soil," said Yola Jimenez, founder of Yola Mezcal. "That's my favorite part: It really tastes like the land."

The layered flavors, including smokiness, in every bottle of mezcal vary by region, variety and producer, and their complexity is a result of techniques used for hundreds of years. The intrinsic smoke flavor forms during the process of roasting the agave hearts, or piñas, before they are crushed and fermented. The sweet, fiery smell that permeates the air during cooking also infuses into the final distillate,



Mezcal Fresca

Makes: 1 drink For the hibiscus syrup: 1 cup dried hibiscus blossom, also called flor de jamaica 1 cup sugar

1 teaspoon smoked flaky salt For the cocktail:

1½ ounces mezcal 1/2 ounce hibiscus syrup

capturing the plant's herbaceous essence.

Each variety of agave used to make mezcal also has its own distinct flavor. For Yola Mezcal, Jimenez follows one of her grandfather's recipes, a blend

1/2 ounce allspice dram ½ ounce fresh grapefruit juice 1/4 ounce fresh lime juice Soda water, for finishing 1. Make the hibiscus syrup: In

a saucepan, combine hibiscus blossoms and 1 cup water, and bring to a simmer over medium heat. Add sugar and salt, stir to dissolve, then turn off heat and allow to cool completely. Strain through a fine mesh sieve, pressing on the solids

of organic espadín (a cultivated

seven years to mature) and a

smaller percentage of madre-

cuixe, a wild, distinctively tall

and cylindrical agave — "because

we felt it had that right balance

variety of agave that takes roughly

to extract all the syrup. (You should have about 1 ¼ cups syrup.) Keep it in the refrigerator, tightly covered in airtight container, for up to 3 weeks. 2. Make the cocktail: In an ice-filled shaker, combine the mezcal, hibiscus syrup, allspice dram, grapefruit juice and lime juice. Cover and shake until well chilled. Fill a rocks glass with ice. Strain the

cocktail into the glass and top with

of sweetness, smokiness and complexity," she said. Before you mix a drink, pour

soda water.

some mezcal on its own. "For me, the smokiness disappears quite quickly after the first sip," Jimenez said.

Bitterscotch

Makes: 1 drink 11/2 ounces Scotch 1 ounce blanc vermouth 34 ounce amaro 1/2 ounce fresh lemon juice

Lemon peel, for serving In a shaker, combine the Scotch, blanc vermouth, amaro and lemon iuice. Add ice. cover and shake vigorously until the drink is well chilled, about 15 seconds. Strain into a chilled cocktail glass. Holding a lemon peel by its long edges, skin facing down into the glass, pinch the peel to release the citrus oils. Add it to the glass and serve.

Keep drinking as-is or mix your next few ounces into a cocktail. Combine the spirit with sweet hibiscus syrup and allspice dram for a Mezcal Fresca, a drink that's tart, smoky and spiced.

Or soften Scotch's smoky edges with white vermouth and amaro in a Bitterscotch. Choose a lighter, sweeter amaro or, should vour smoke tolerance be higher, double down with Amaro Sfumato Rabarbaro, a smoky, alpine amaro made in northern Italy. And, if you're on a tight timeline, combine equal parts Amaro Sfumato Rabarbaro and sweet vermouth over ice, and start drinking.

Whichever bottle you choose, smoke-leaning cocktails hit that sweet spot between smoking jacket and cigar, and suit a wide variety of palates — no lingering haze necessary.

Easy sliders prove lamb isn't just for the holidays

By Nicole Rufus TheKitchn.com

For the longest time, I thought lamb was strictly reserved for holidays like Christmas and Easter. (My mom doesn't eat lamb, so I only ever ate it when I celebrated holidays at friends' houses). But about five years ago, I had my first lamb burger at a restaurant in New York, and I realized what I'd been missing. It was one of the best burgers I'd ever had, and I became determined to create my own version — in slider form, that is.

The best thing about the burger was how well-seasoned it was. When cooking lamb, you don't want to drown out its unique flavor, but you do need enough of a kick to counterbalance it. That's where harissa — a Tunisian chili paste made up of peppers, citrus, cumin, coriander and caraway seeds — comes into play. Its flavor perfectly tempers the richness of the lamb. And trust me, once the sauce (or powder; it's sold both ways) is in your kitchen, you'll find endless ways to use it.

These sliders also include quick-pickled red onions, crumbled feta and a harissa mayo that I now use on a variety of sandwiches. I still eat lamb rather sparingly, but these sliders are proof you don't have to wait for an extra-special occasion.

Harissa lamb sliders

Makes: 6 to 12 servings For the pickled onions: 1 small red onion (about 3

to 4 ounces) 34 cup apple cider vinegar

1/4 cup cold water

1 teaspoon granulated sugar ½ teaspoon kosher salt For the sliders:

3 sprigs fresh parsley 3 springs fresh cilantro

8 to 10 fresh mint leaves

4 cloves garlic 2 pounds ground lamb 1 tablespoon harissa powder

(or 2 tablespoon harissa sauce) 2 teaspoons kosher salt

3 ounces feta cheese 4 tablespoons olive oil, divided

12 slider buns or dinner rolls (potato,

brioche, etc.) For the harissa mayo:

1/2 cup mayonnaise ½ lemon

1 teaspoon harissa powder (or 1

tablespoon harissa sauce) Make the pickled onions: 1. Pour 3/4 cup apple cider vinegar

and ¼ cup cold water into a Mason jar or another airtight container. 2. Add 1 teaspoon granulated sugar and 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt, and use a spoon to stir until the sugar and salt have completely dissolved.

3. Halve and then thinly slice 1 small red onion (about 1 cup).

4. Add to the vinegar mixture and make sure the onion is completely submerged. Refrigerate for at least 30 minutes.

Make the sliders:

1. Finely chop 3 sprigs parsley and 3



Harissa and lamb make for a dynamic duo in these sliders topped with feta cheese and pickled onions. JOE LINGEMAN/THEKITCHN.COM

kosher salt.

sprigs cilantro, about 1 tablespoon each. Add them to a large bowl. Finely chop 8 to 10 mint leaves until you have 1 tablespoon of mint and add it to the bowl. Mince 4 cloves garlic (about 1 tablespoon) and add

to the bowl. 2. Add 2 pounds ground lamb meat to the bowl. Sprinkle in 1 tablespoon of harissa powder or 2 tablespoons of harissa sauce and 2 teaspoons

3. Using either your hands or a rubber spatula, thoroughly mix everything together. Shape into 12 (3-inch-wide) patties (about

3 ounces each) and place them in the refrigerator for 30 minutes. Meanwhile, make the harissa mayo Make the harissa mayo:

1. Whisk together 1/2 cup mayonnaise, 1 tablespoon lemon juice and 1 teaspoon harissa powder or 1 tablespoon harissa sauce in a small bowl. Refrigerate until ready to assemble the sliders. Cook the sliders:

1. Arrange a rack in the middle of the oven and heat the oven to 450 degrees. Meanwhile, crumble 3 ounces feta cheese (about 3/3 cup). 2. Heat 2 tablespoons of the olive oil in a 12-inch skillet or pan over medium-high heat until shimmering. Add 6 lamb patties to the skillet and cook, flipping them halfway through, until browned, cooked through, and an instantread thermometer inserted into the center of a patty registers 160 degrees, 8 to 10 minutes total. Transfer to a plate and repeat cooking the remaining patties. 3. Split the buns in half and put them cut-side up in a single layer

on a baking sheet. Brush the cut sides with the remaining 2 tablespoons of olive oil. Bake until golden brown and toasted, 3 to 4 minutes.

Assemble the sliders:

1. Drain the pickled onions. Spread the harissa mayo on the top and bottom of the buns.

2. Sprinkle the bottom bun with feta and then place pickled onions on top.

3. Place lamb patties down on top of the pickled onions. Close with the top buns.